16

BORUTO

-NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS-

Creator/Supervisor **Masashi Kishimoto** Art by **Mikio Ikemoto**

Mini
Choco
Sundae

池本幹雄

Two locations of a family restaurant chain that were closest to me closed for good. I'm in shock... I was thinking something was up, because they had recently stopped appearing on Uber Eats. Darn COVID.

Fortunately, my favorite Denny's is still going strong. It's a relaxation spot where I go to eat a parfait when I finish a chapter, so it would be a problem if it went away. The seasonal parfaits are good, but personally, I'm a fan of the Mini Choco Sundae. The biggest bang for your buck!

–Mikio Ikemoto, 2022

BORUTO
-NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS-

VOLUME 16

SHONEN JUMP EDITION

Creator/Supervisor MASASHI KISHIMOTO
Art by MIKIO IKEMOTO

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RATED T TEEN

PARENTAL ADVISORY
BORUTO is rated T for Teen and is
recommended for ages 13 and up.
This volume contains fantasy violence.

BORUTO

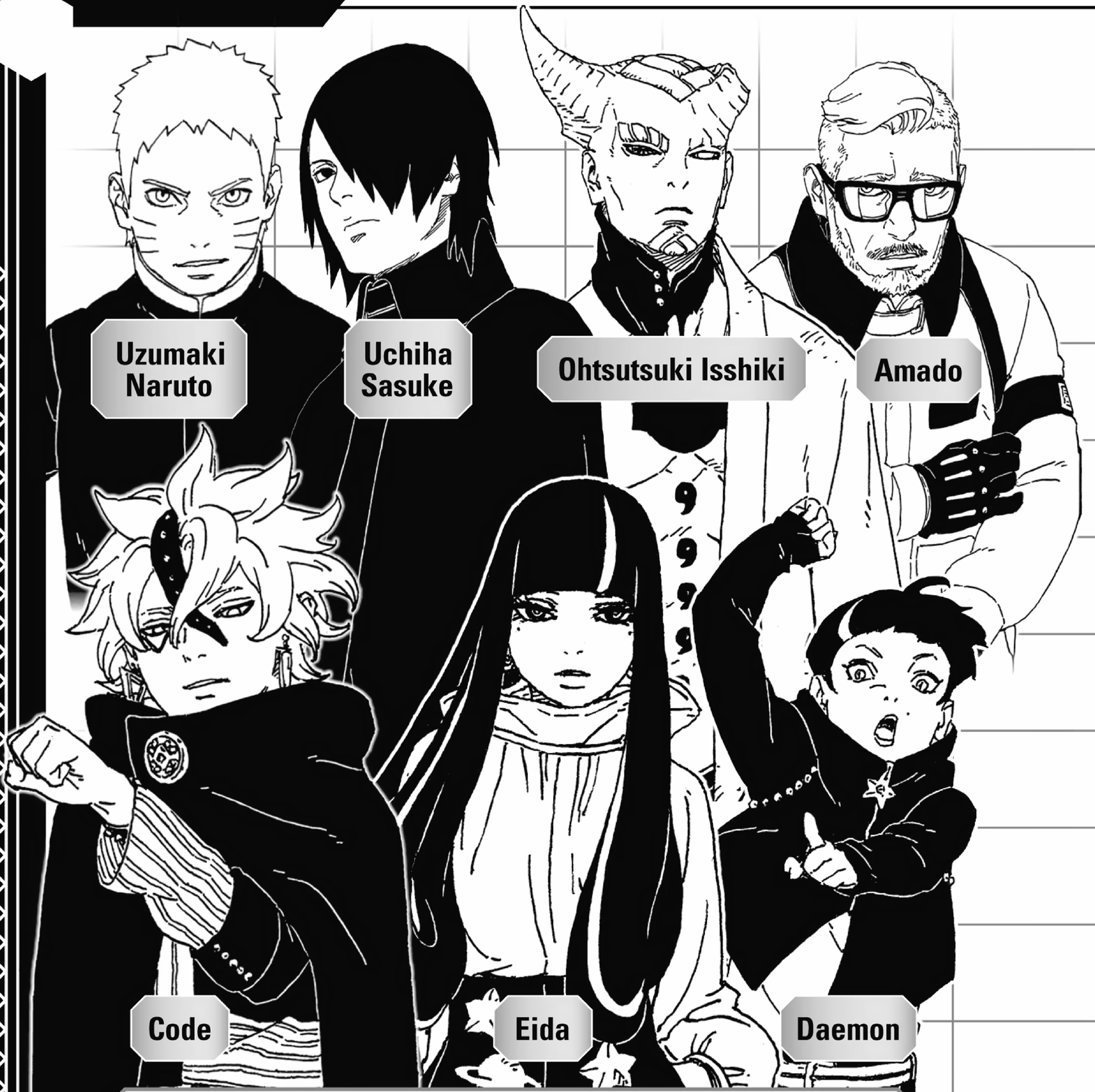
-NARU T GENERATIONS-

Creator/Supervisor
Masashi Kishimoto
Art by
Mikio Ikemoto

VOLUME 16

Madness

BORUTO -NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS- CHARACTERS


Uzumaki Naruto
Uchiha Sasuke
Ohtsutsuki Isshiki
Amado
Code
Eida
Daemon

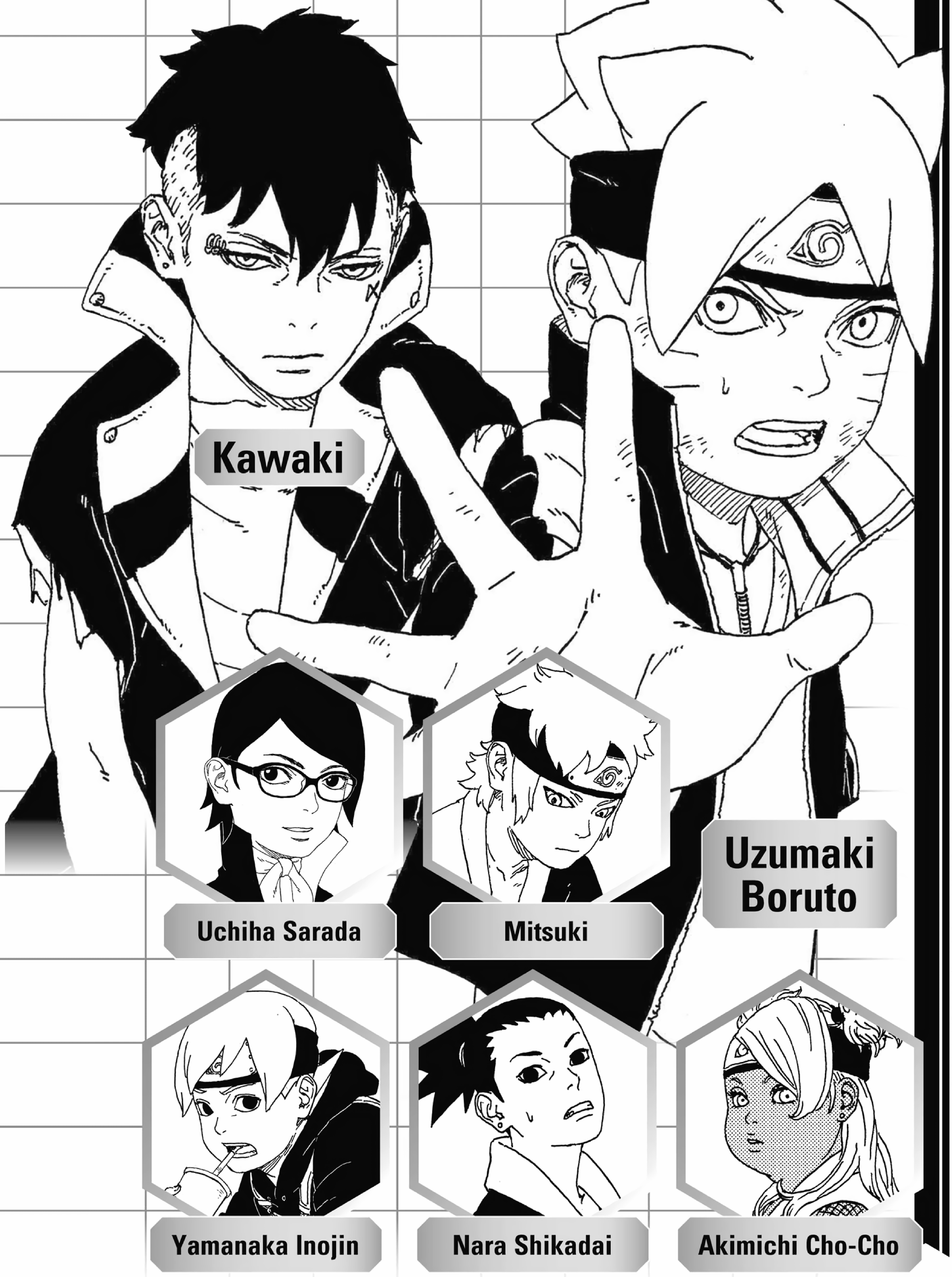
STORY

The Great Ninja War that shook the world and shed much blood is now history. Naruto has become the Seventh Hokage, and the people of Konohagakure Village are enjoying peace. But Ohtsutsuki Clan members attack, and leave a mysterious mark, the Karma, on Seventh Hokage Naruto's son Boruto…

Afterwards, Boruto happens upon a young man named Kawaki who bears the same Karma as himself. And it is he who is proven to be what Kara has been calling the Vessel.

In order to place Kawaki under his protection, Naruto moves him into his own home. Boruto and Kawaki keep butting heads, but Kawaki starts acclimating to the Village and begins to respect Naruto.

Later, with his life running out, Ohtsutsuki Isshiki attempts to resurrect in Kawaki's body, but the valiant efforts of Naruto and the others lead to his end. Kara's last officer, Code, who has taken on the Ohtsutsuki Will from Isshiki, awakens sibling cyborgs who possess astounding powers, and vows to take Naruto and the others down. Elsewhere, Boruto and his friends train in preparation for battling Code, but…


Kawaki
Uzumaki Boruto
Uchiha Sarada
Mitsuki
Yamanaka Inojin
Nara Shikadai
Akimichi Cho-Cho

BORUTO

—NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS—

VOLUME 16

MADNESS

CONTENTS

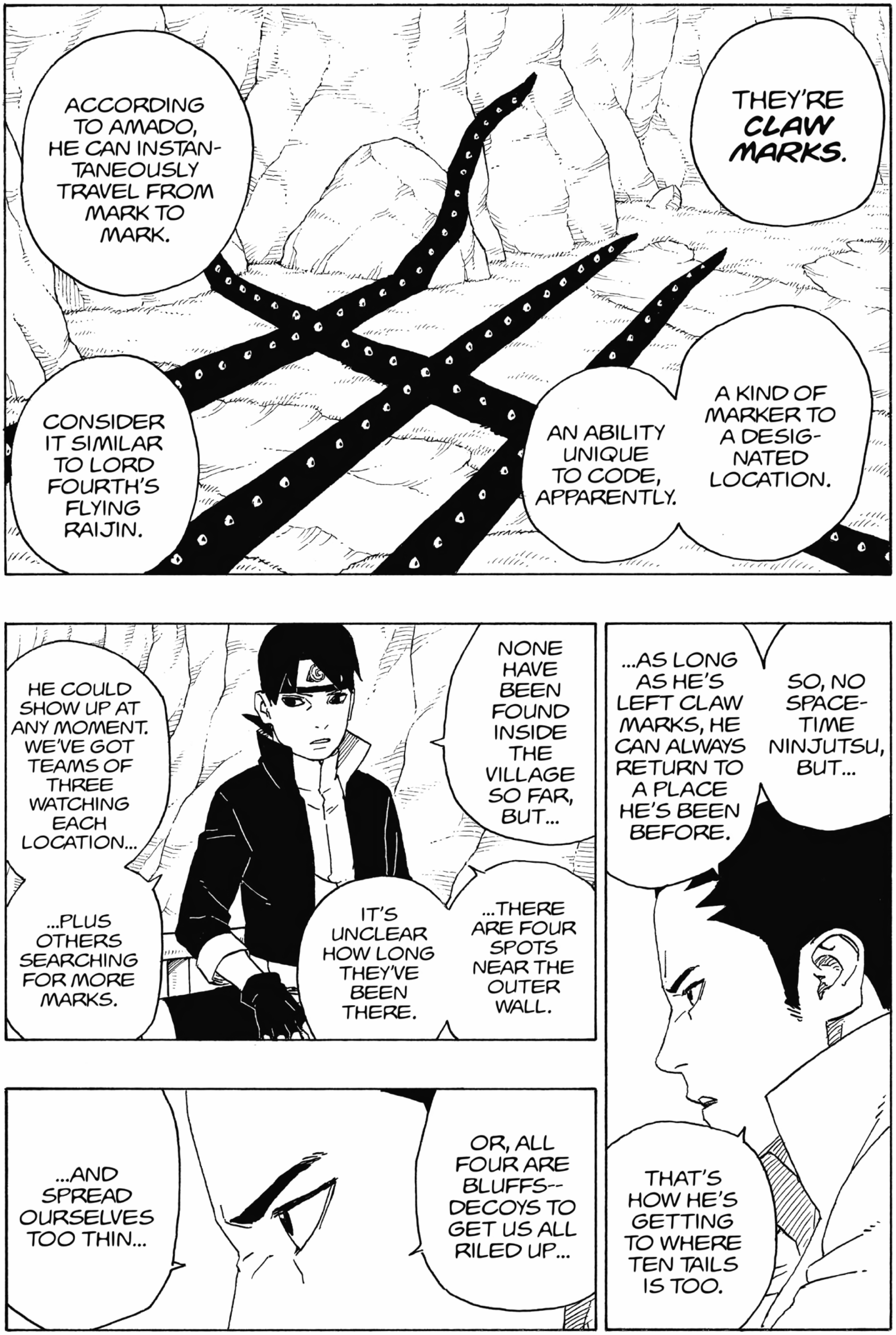
Number 60: **A Place to Belong** 7

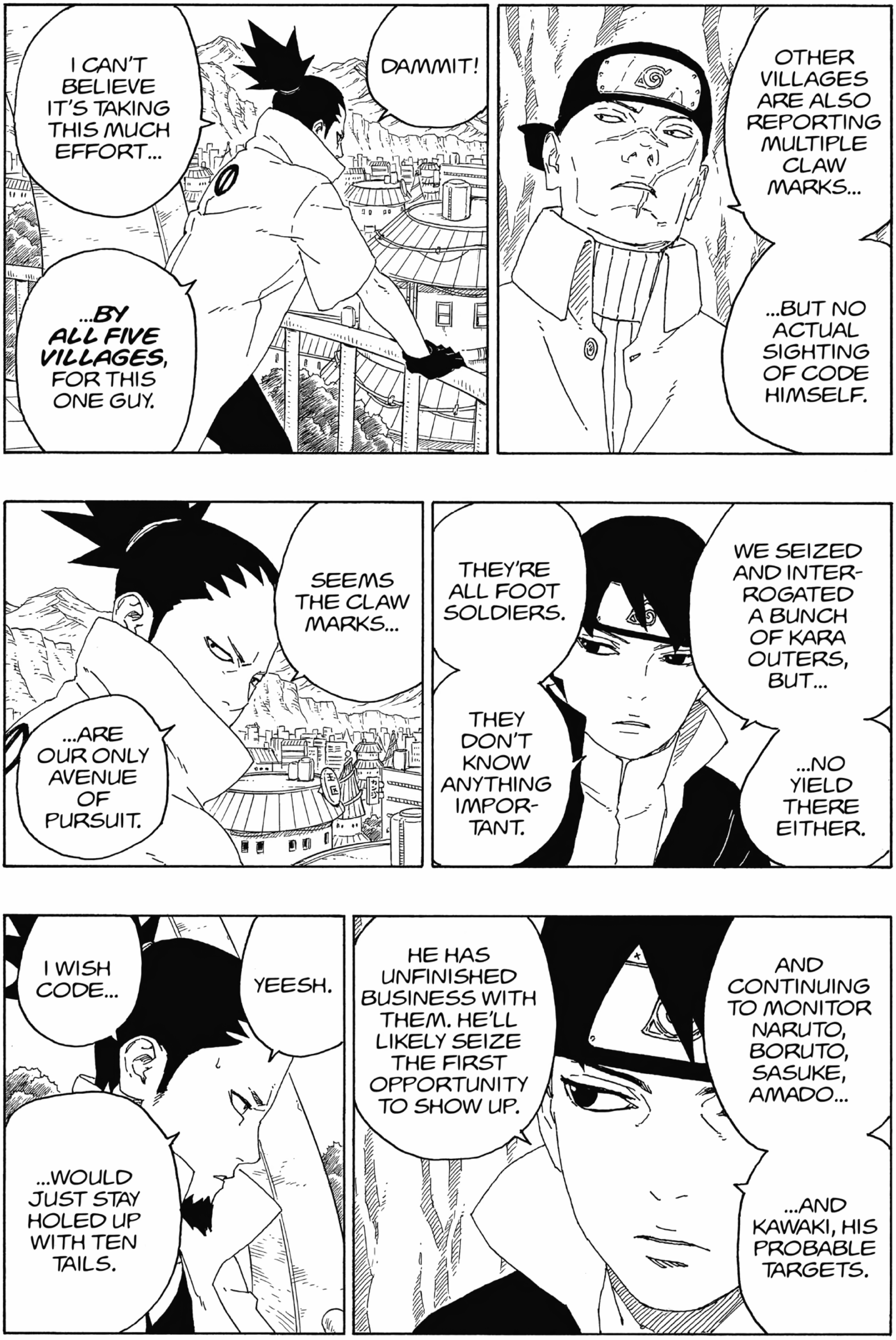
Number 61: **Madness** 49

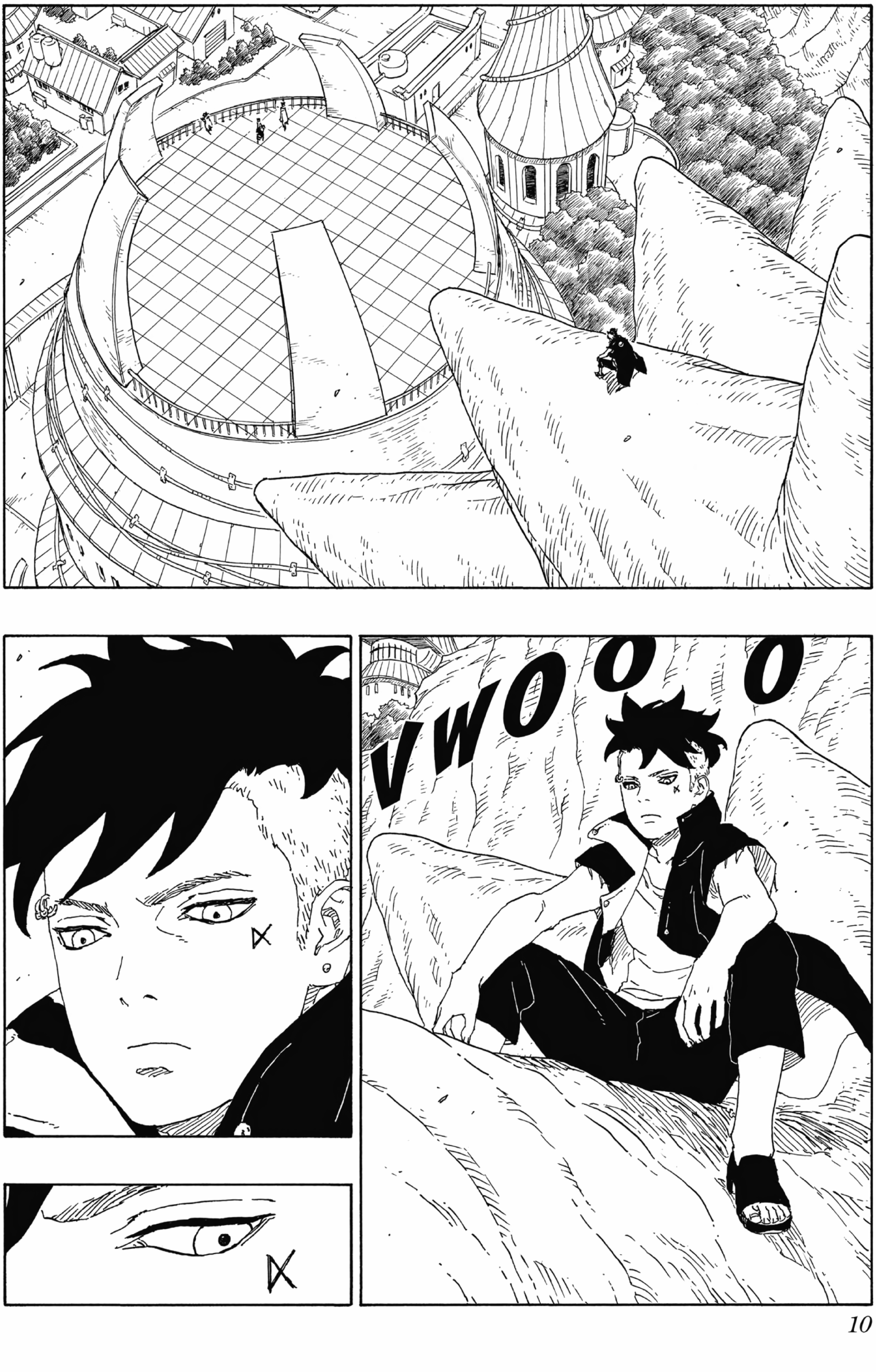
Number 62: **Run-in** 91

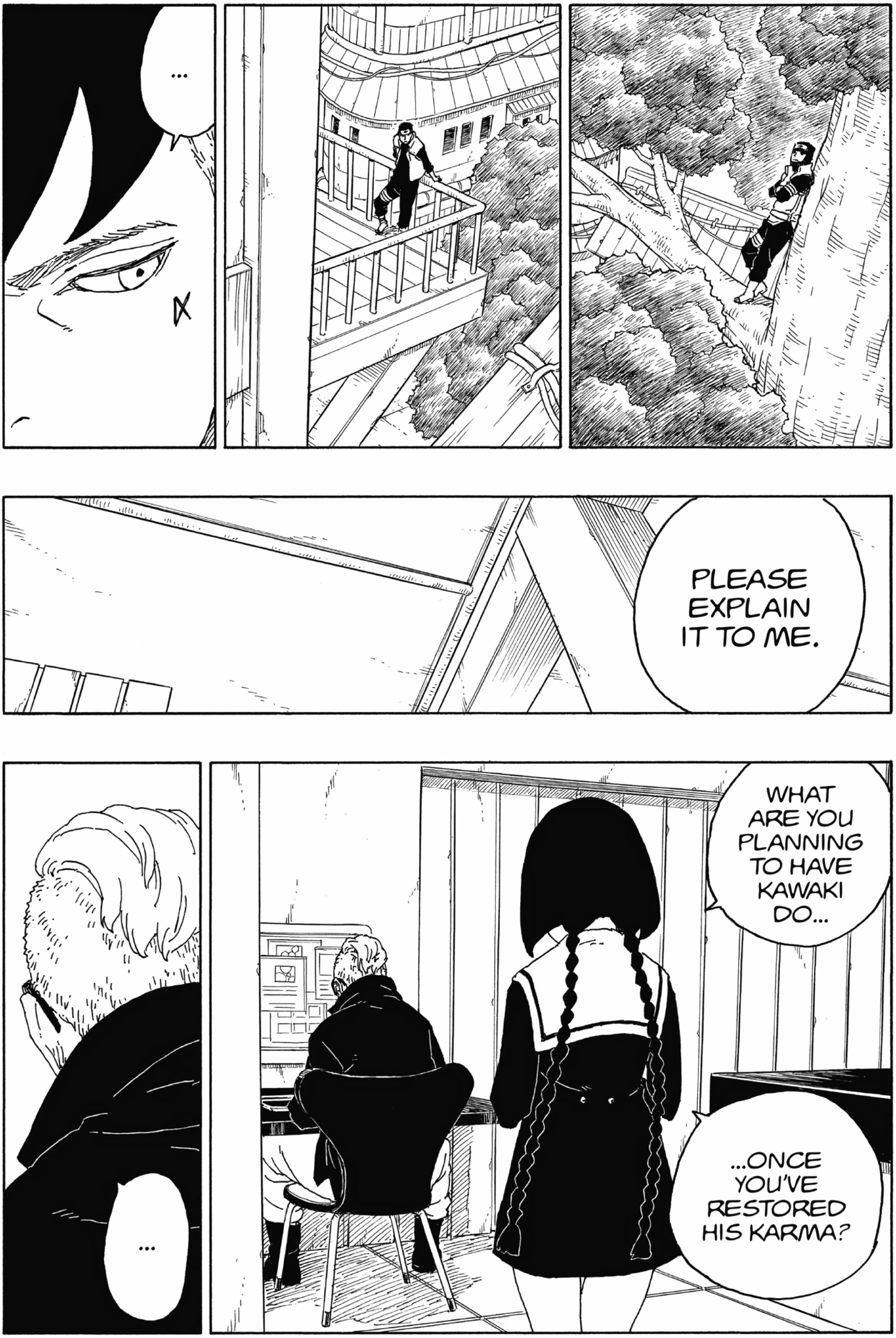
Number 63: **Ask No Questions** 133

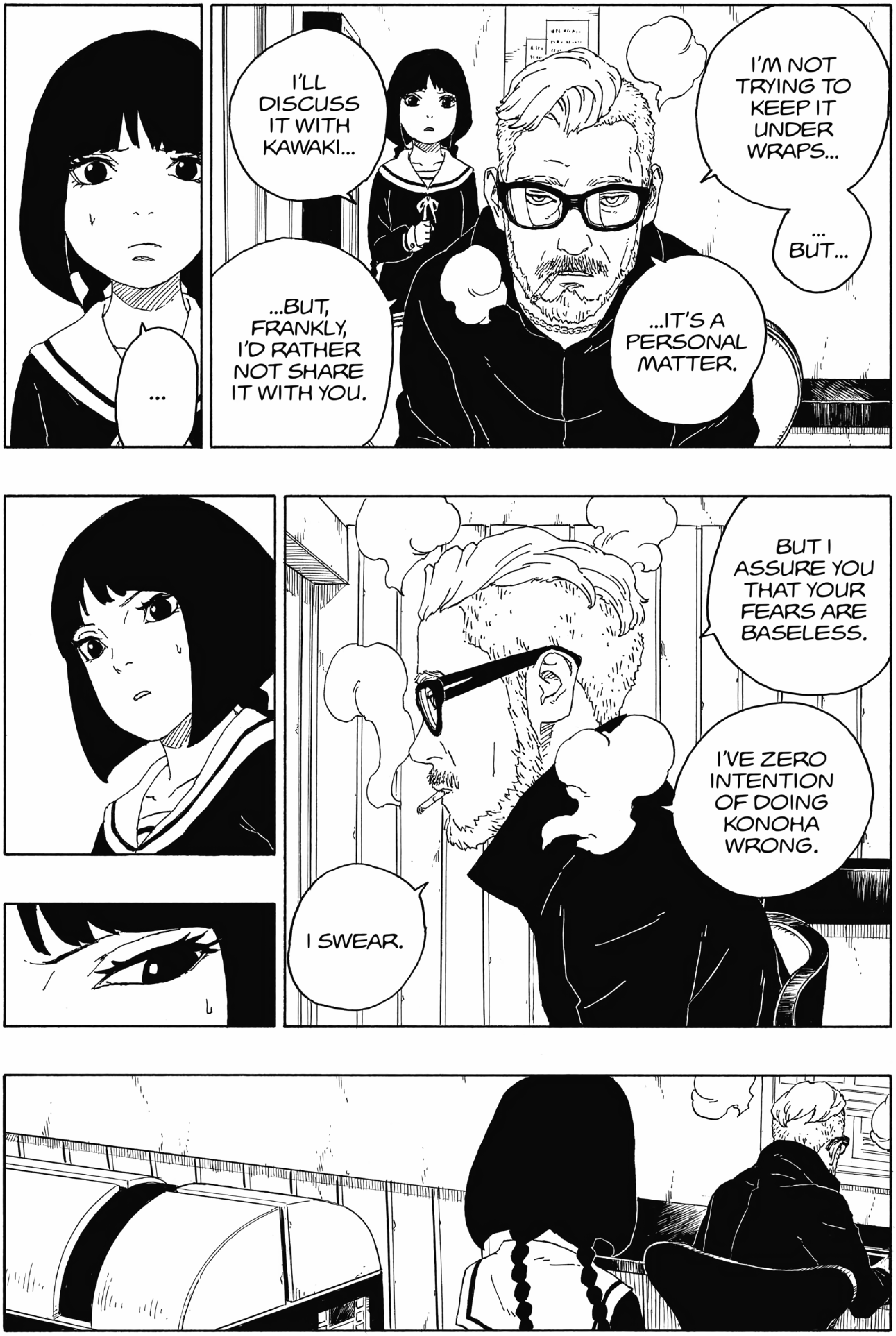
Number 60: A Place to Belong

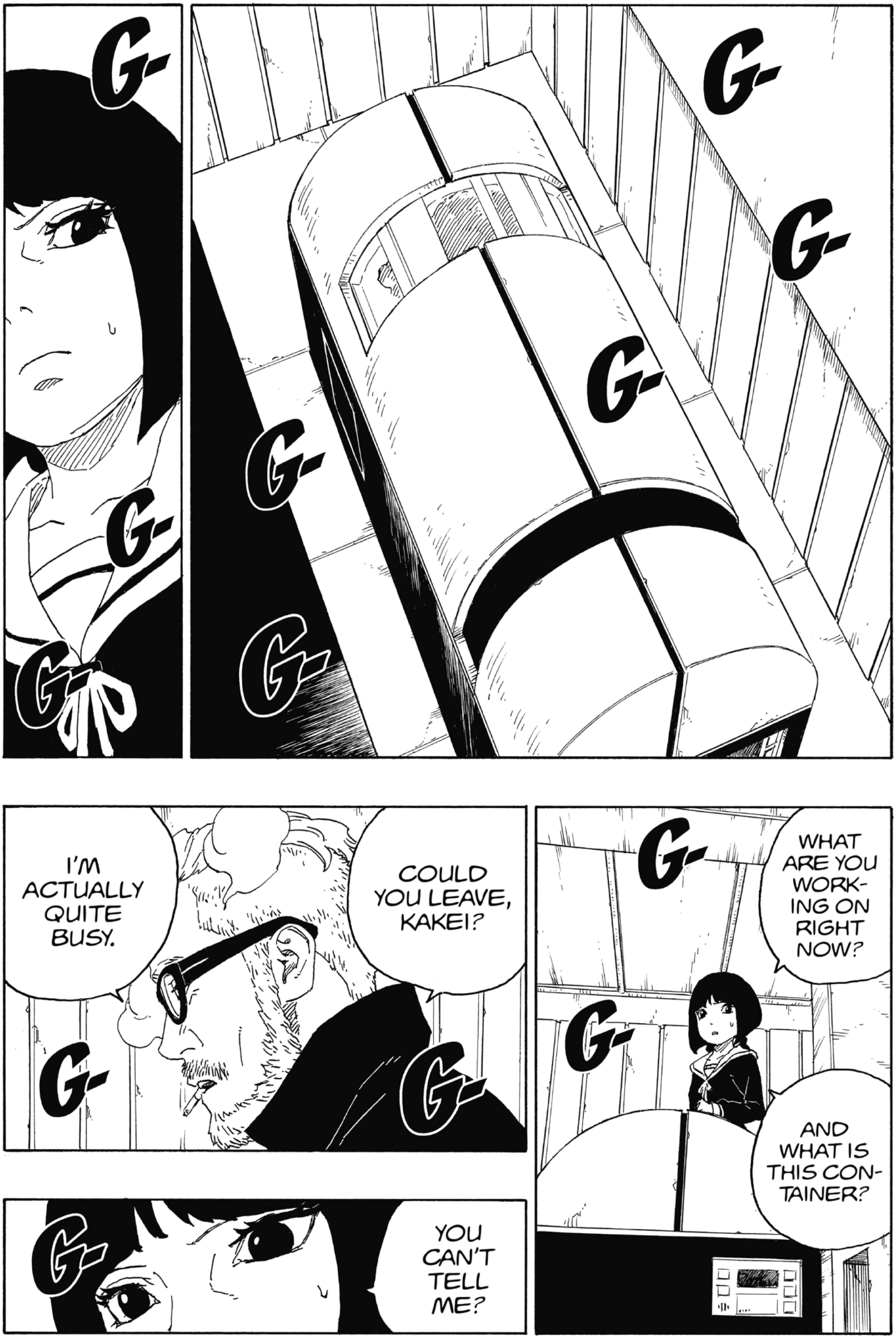

THEY'RE *CLAW MARKS.*
A KIND OF MARKER TO A DESIGNATED LOCATION.
AN ABILITY UNIQUE TO CODE, APPARENTLY.
ACCORDING TO AMADO, HE CAN INSTANTANEOUSLY TRAVEL FROM MARK TO MARK.
CONSIDER IT SIMILAR TO LORD FOURTH'S FLYING RAIJIN.
SO, NO SPACE-TIME NINJUTSU, BUT...
...AS LONG AS HE'S LEFT CLAW MARKS, HE CAN ALWAYS RETURN TO A PLACE HE'S BEEN BEFORE.
THAT'S HOW HE'S GETTING TO WHERE TEN TAILS IS TOO.
NONE HAVE BEEN FOUND INSIDE THE VILLAGE SO FAR, BUT...
...THERE ARE FOUR SPOTS NEAR THE OUTER WALL.
IT'S UNCLEAR HOW LONG THEY'VE BEEN THERE.
HE COULD SHOW UP AT ANY MOMENT. WE'VE GOT TEAMS OF THREE WATCHING EACH LOCATION...
...PLUS OTHERS SEARCHING FOR MORE MARKS.
OR, ALL FOUR ARE BLUFFS--DECOYS TO GET US ALL RILED UP...
...AND SPREAD OURSELVES TOO THIN...

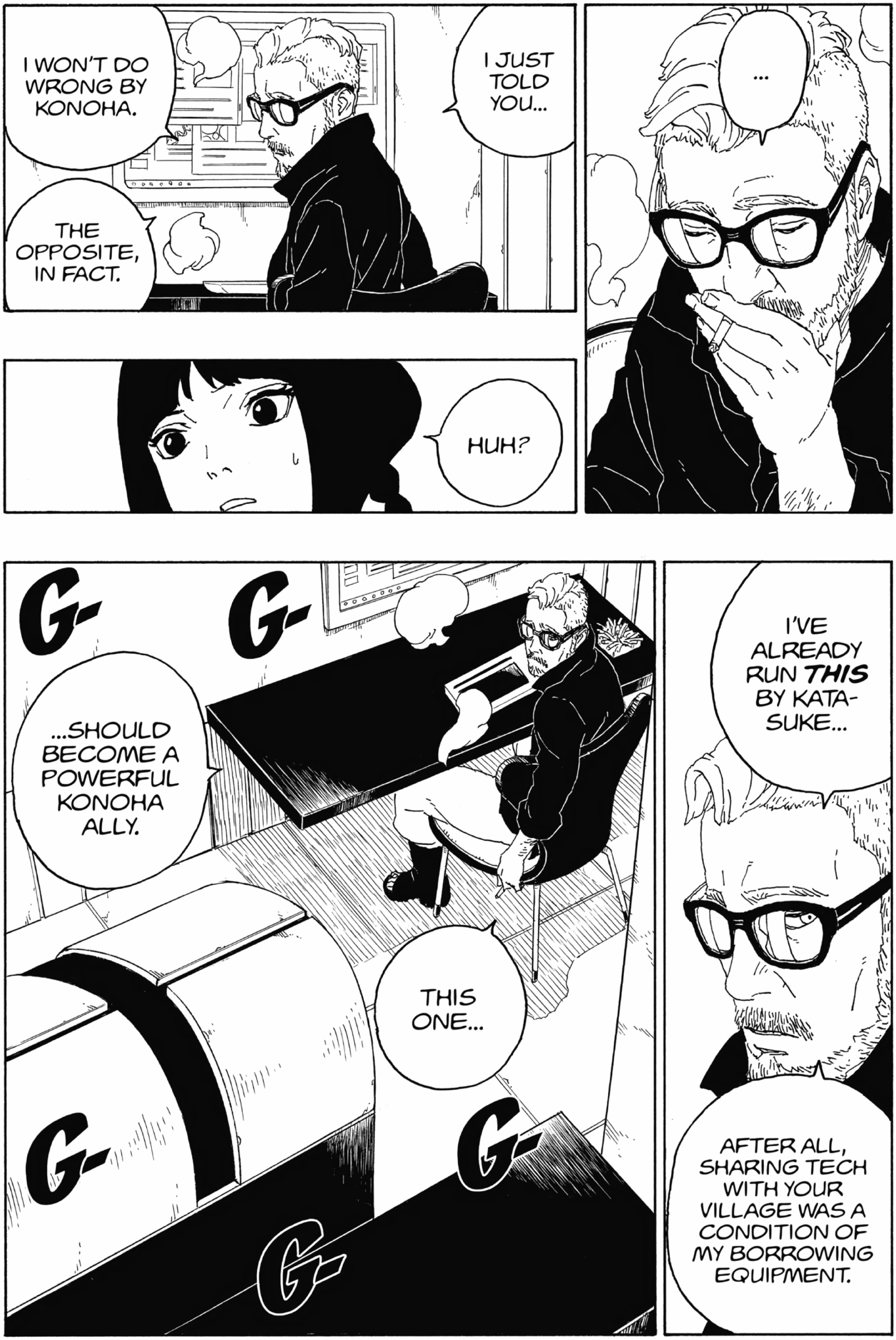

OTHER VILLAGES ARE ALSO REPORTING MULTIPLE CLAW MARKS...
...BUT NO ACTUAL SIGHTING OF CODE HIMSELF.
DAMMIT!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S TAKING THIS MUCH EFFORT...
...**BY ALL FIVE VILLAGES**, FOR THIS ONE GUY.
WE SEIZED AND INTERROGATED A BUNCH OF KARA OUTERS, BUT...
...NO YIELD THERE EITHER.
THEY'RE ALL FOOT SOLDIERS.
THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING IMPORTANT.
SEEMS THE CLAW MARKS...
...ARE OUR ONLY AVENUE OF PURSUIT.
AND CONTINUING TO MONITOR NARUTO, BORUTO, SASUKE, AMADO...
...AND KAWAKI, HIS PROBABLE TARGETS.
HE HAS UNFINISHED BUSINESS WITH THEM. HE'LL LIKELY SEIZE THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW UP.
YEESH.
I WISH CODE...
...WOULD JUST STAY HOLED UP WITH TEN TAILS.

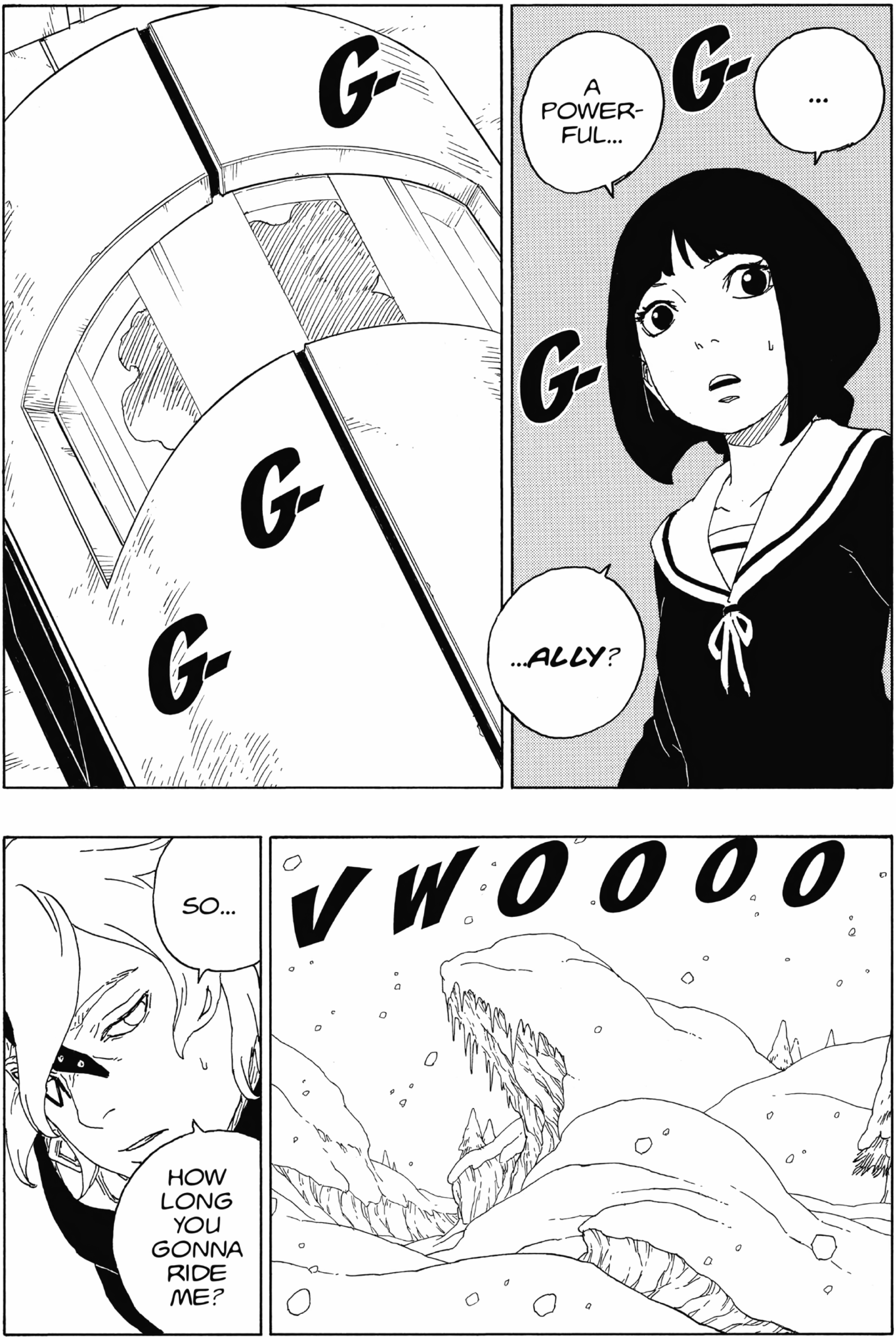

VWOOOO

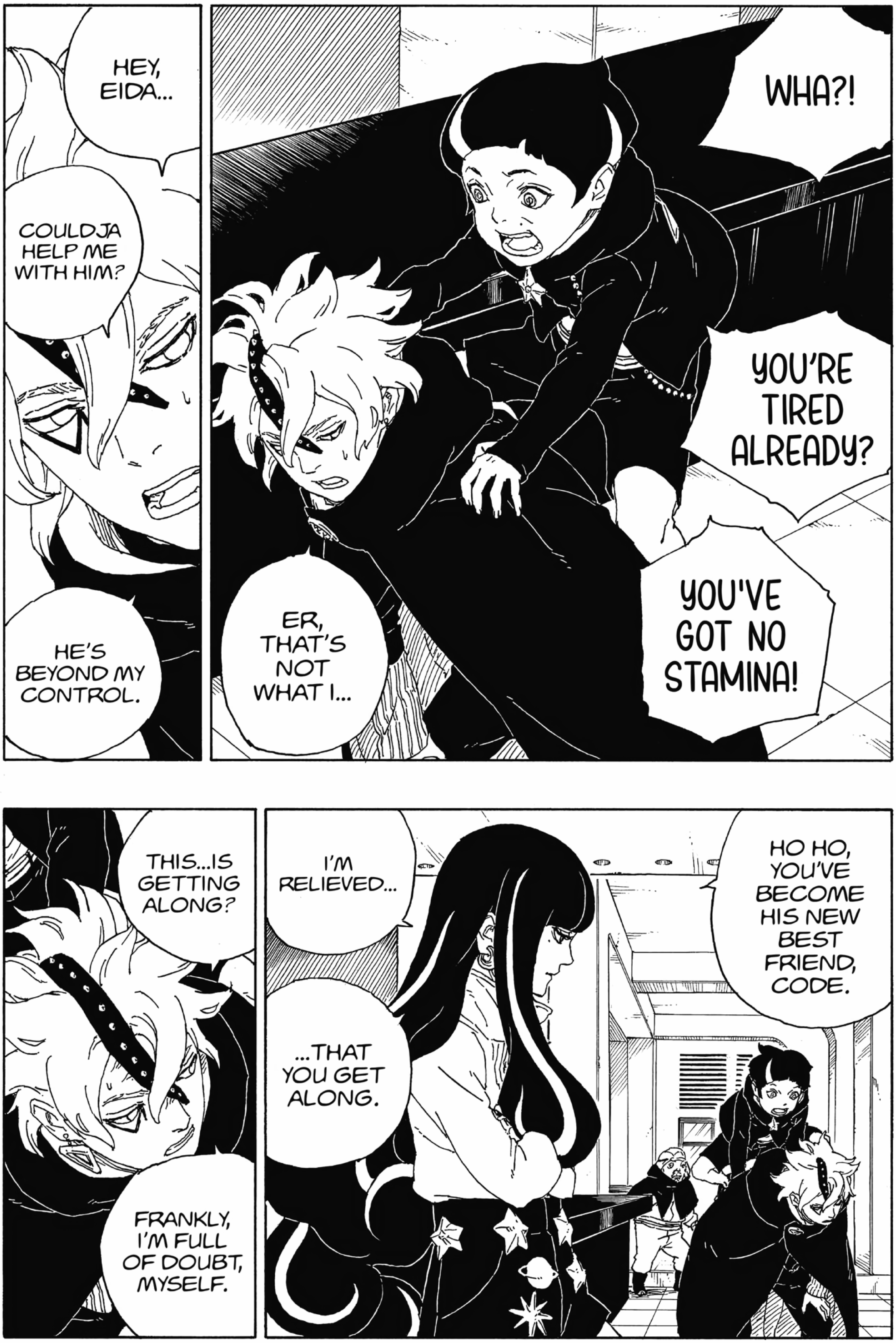

...
PLEASE EXPLAIN IT TO ME.
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO HAVE KAWAKI DO...
...ONCE YOU'VE RESTORED HIS KARMA?
...

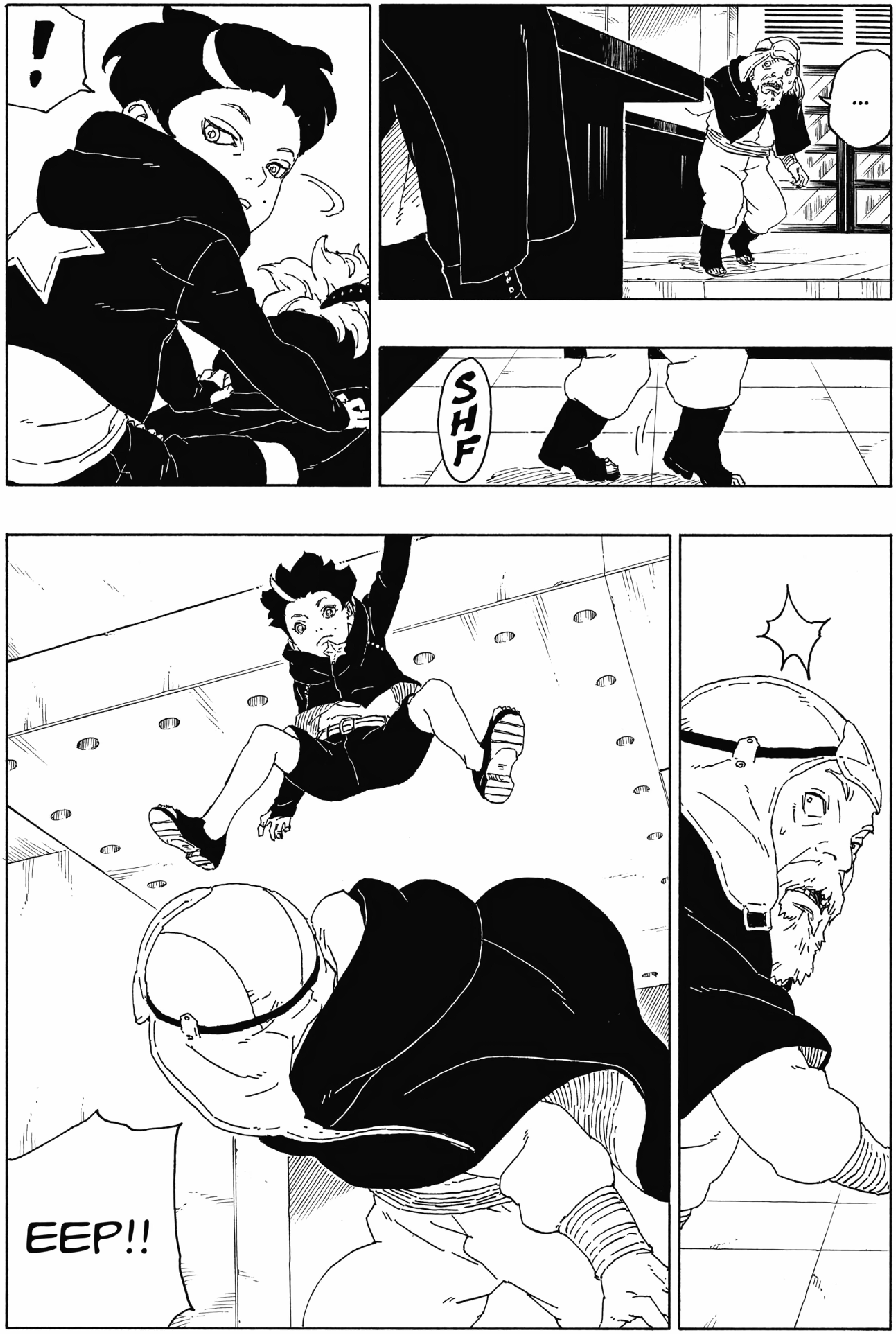

I'M NOT TRYING TO KEEP IT UNDER WRAPS...
... BUT...
...IT'S A PERSONAL MATTER.
I'LL DISCUSS IT WITH KAWAKI...
...BUT, FRANKLY, I'D RATHER NOT SHARE IT WITH YOU.
...
BUT I ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR FEARS ARE BASELESS.
I'VE ZERO INTENTION OF DOING KONOHA WRONG.
I SWEAR.

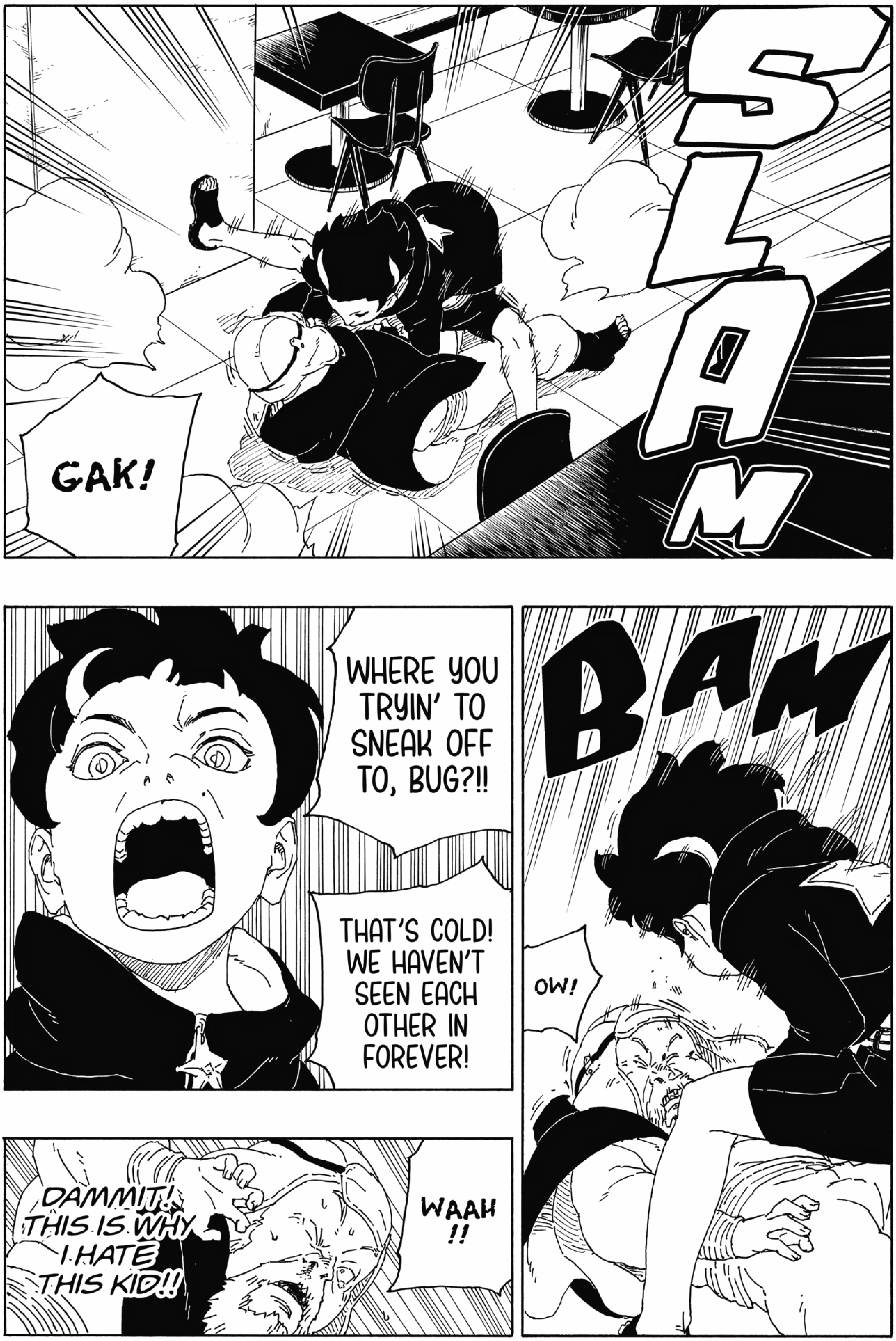

G-
G-
G-
G-
G-
G-
G-
G-
G-
G-
WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON RIGHT NOW?
G-
AND WHAT IS THIS CONTAINER?
COULD YOU LEAVE, KAKEI?
I'M ACTUALLY QUITE BUSY.
G-
G-
YOU CAN'T TELL ME?
G-

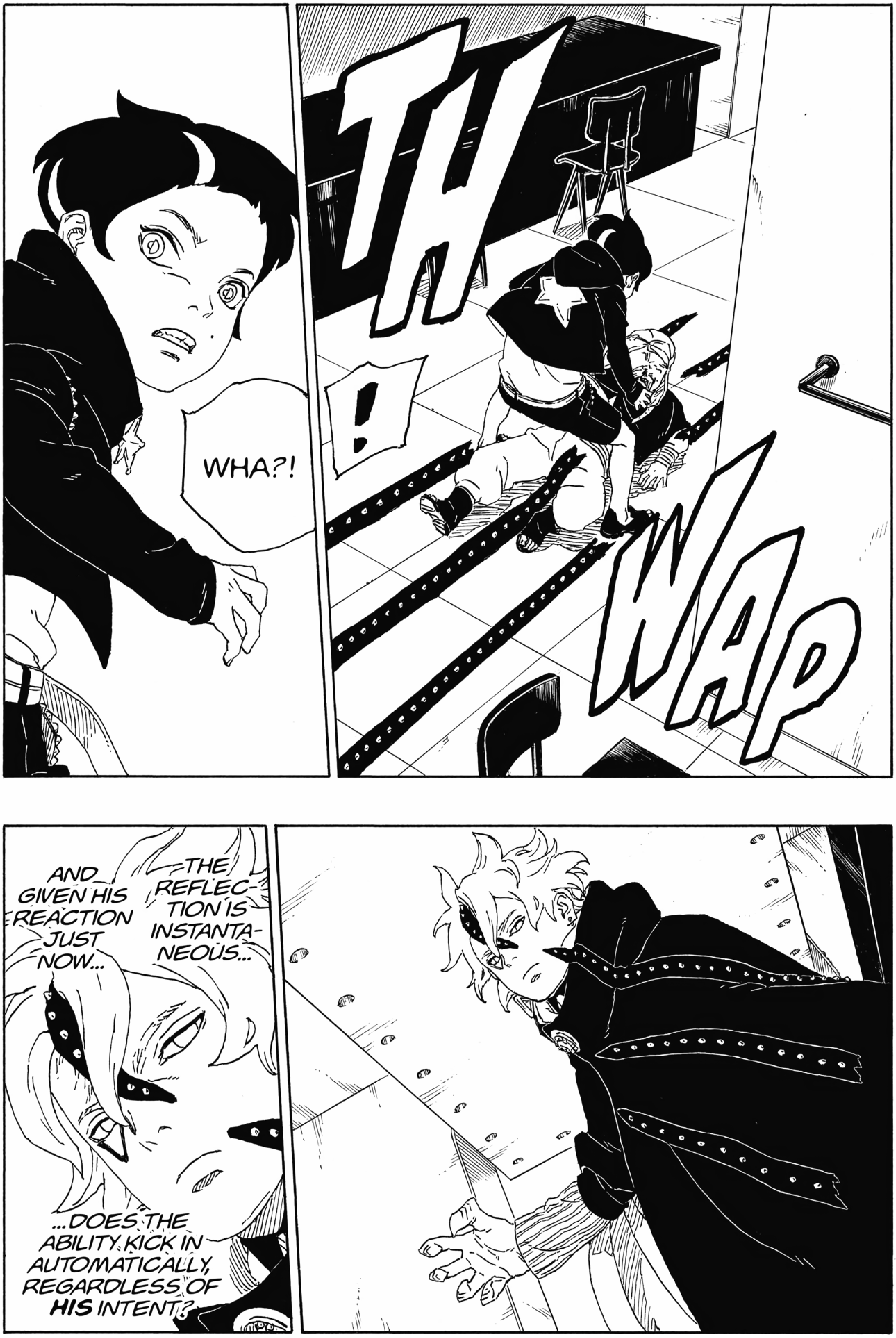

...
I JUST TOLD YOU...
I WON'T DO WRONG BY KONOHA.
THE OPPOSITE, IN FACT.
HUH?
I'VE ALREADY RUN **THIS** BY KATASUKE...
AFTER ALL, SHARING TECH WITH YOUR VILLAGE WAS A CONDITION OF MY BORROWING EQUIPMENT.
G-
G-
THIS ONE...
...SHOULD BECOME A POWERFUL KONOHA ALLY.
G-
G-
G-

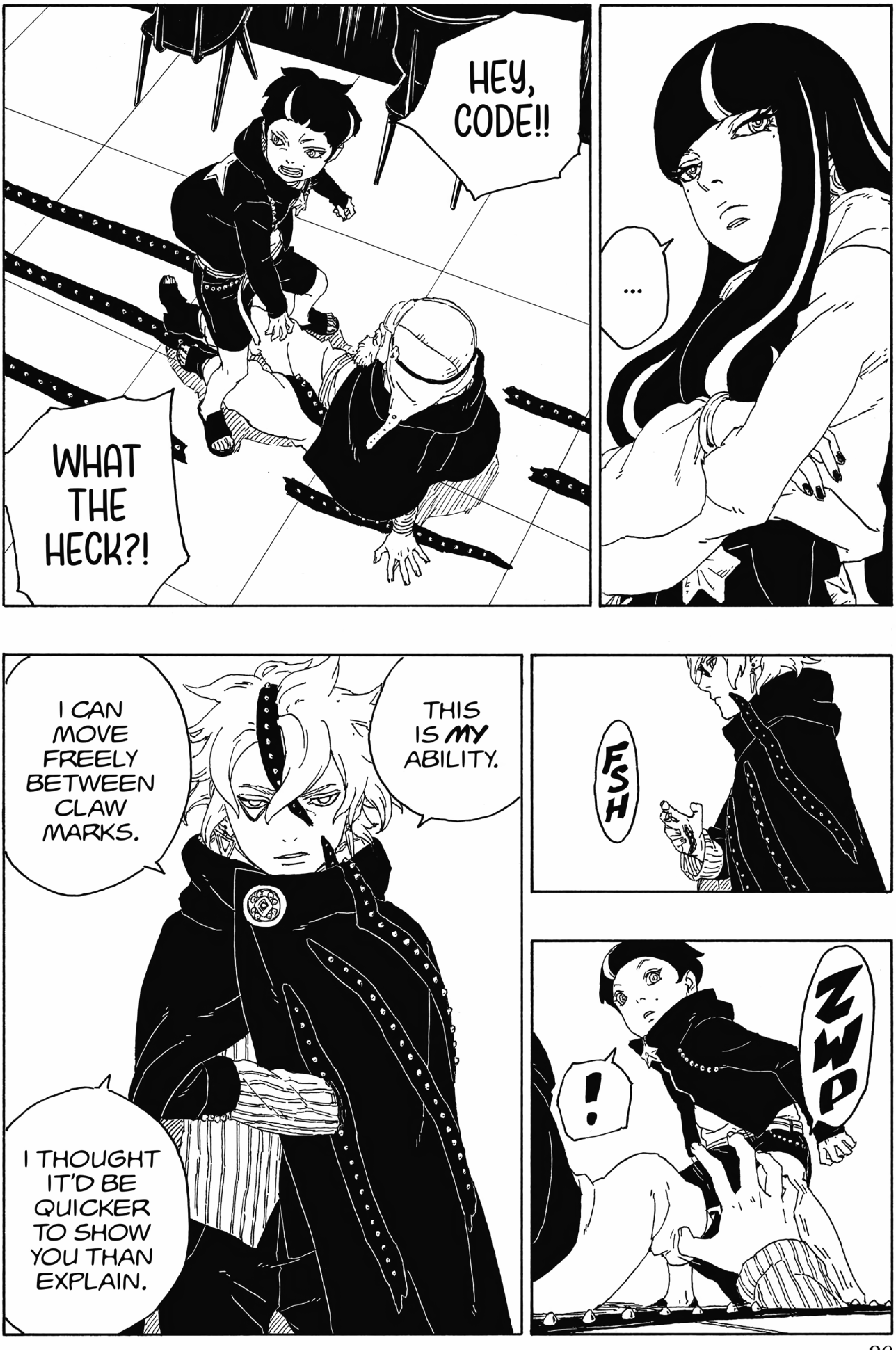

...
G-
A POWERFUL...
G-
...ALLY?
G-
G-
G-
VWOOOOO
SO...
HOW LONG YOU GONNA RIDE ME?

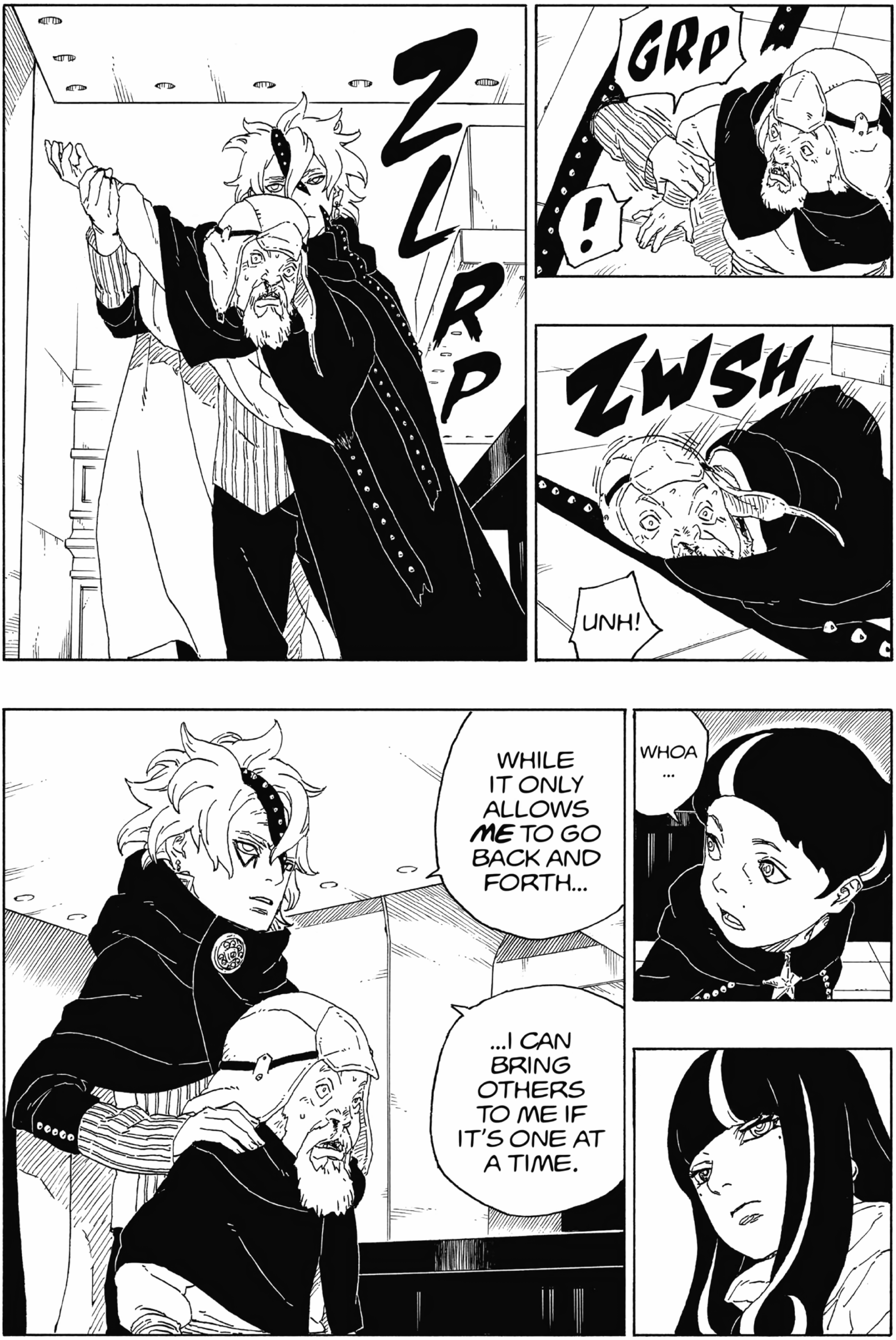

WHA?!
YOU'RE TIRED ALREADY?
YOU'VE GOT NO STAMINA!
ER, THAT'S NOT WHAT I...
HEY, EIDA...
COULDJA HELP ME WITH HIM?
HE'S BEYOND MY CONTROL.
HO HO, YOU'VE BECOME HIS NEW BEST FRIEND, CODE.
I'M RELIEVED...
...THAT YOU GET ALONG.
THIS...IS GETTING ALONG?
FRANKLY, I'M FULL OF DOUBT, MYSELF.

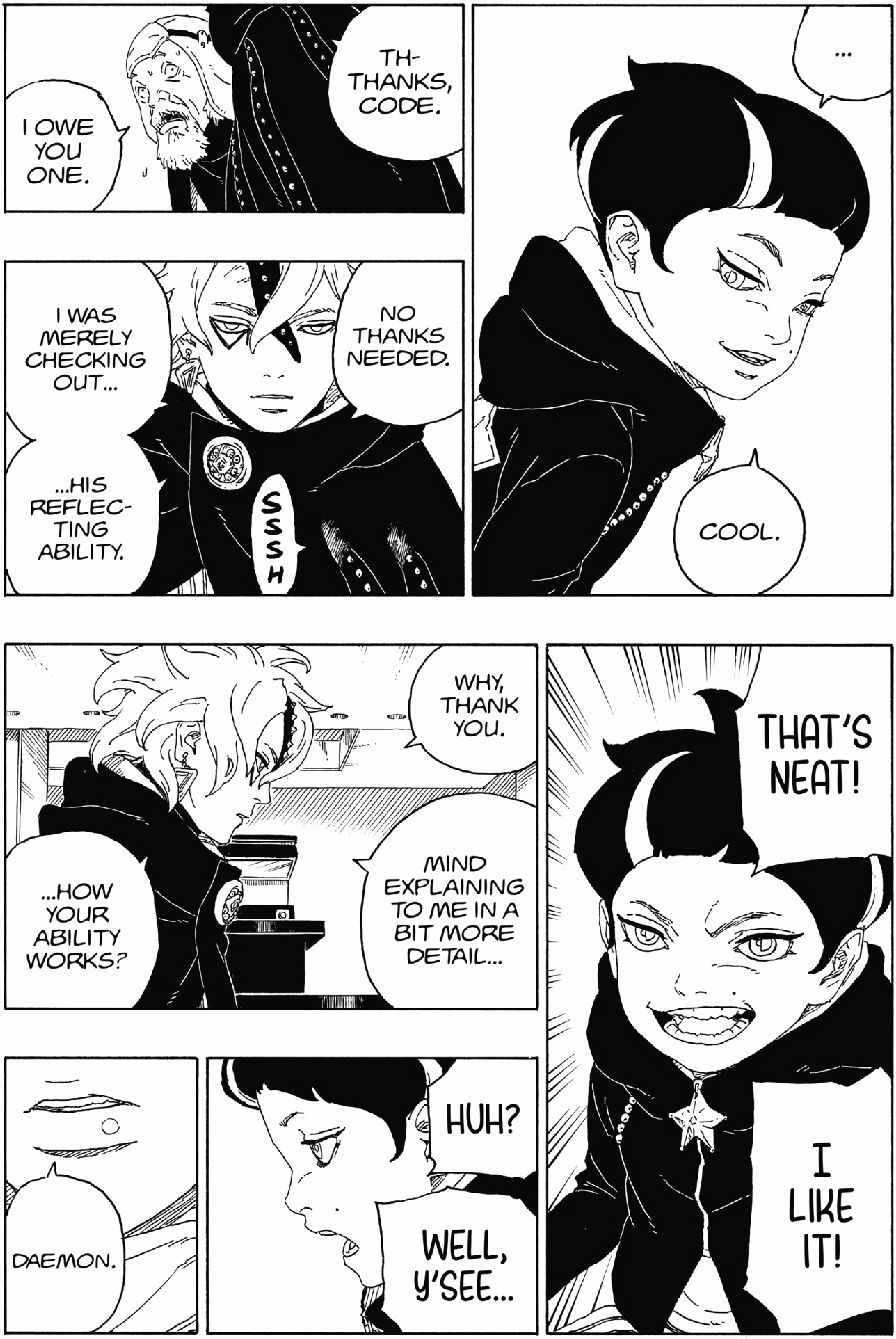

!
…
SHF
EEP!!

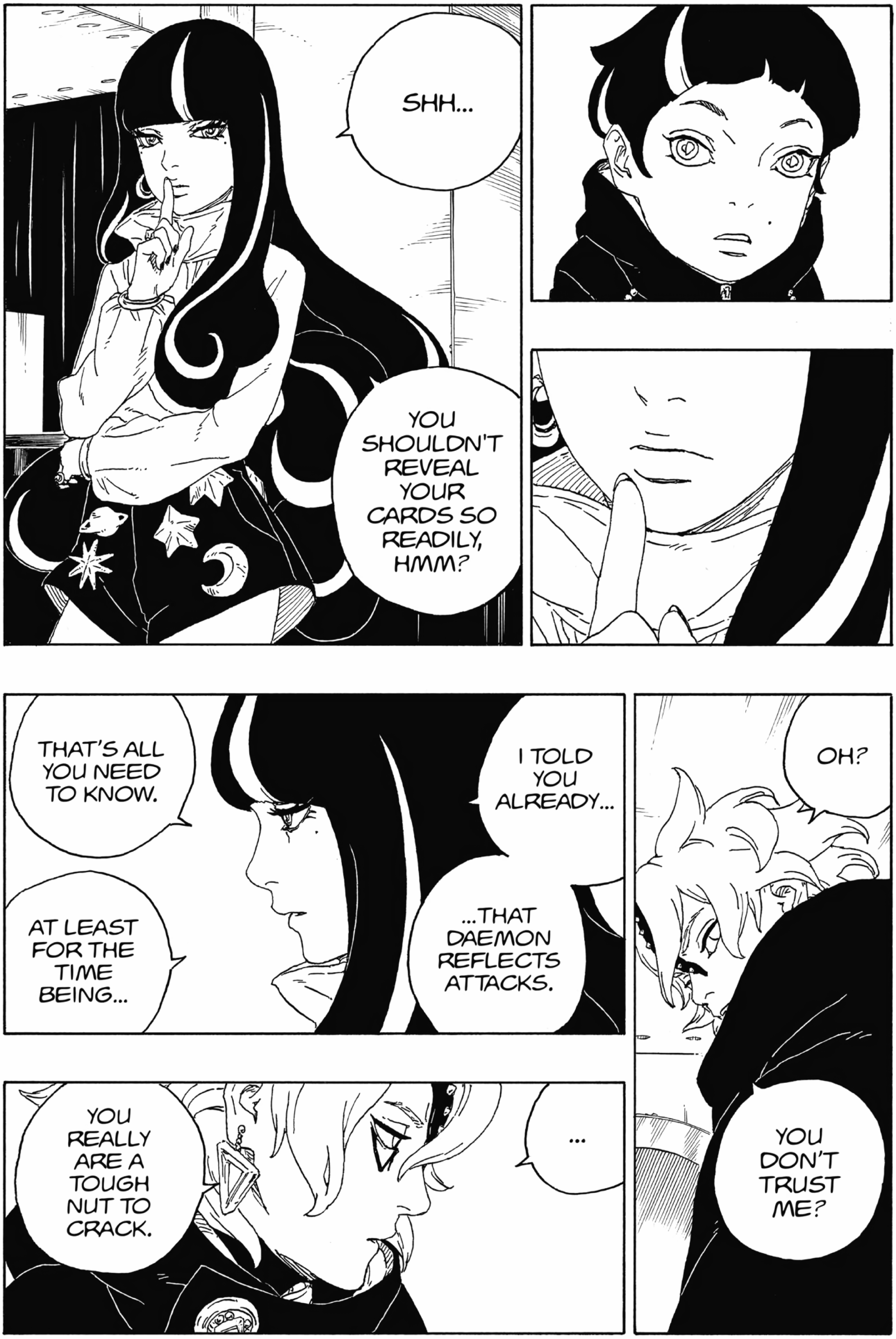

SLAM
GAK!
BAM
OW!
WHERE YOU TRYIN' TO SNEAK OFF TO, BUG?!!
THAT'S COLD! WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER IN FOREVER!
WAAH!!
DAMMIT! THIS IS WHY I HATE THIS KID!!

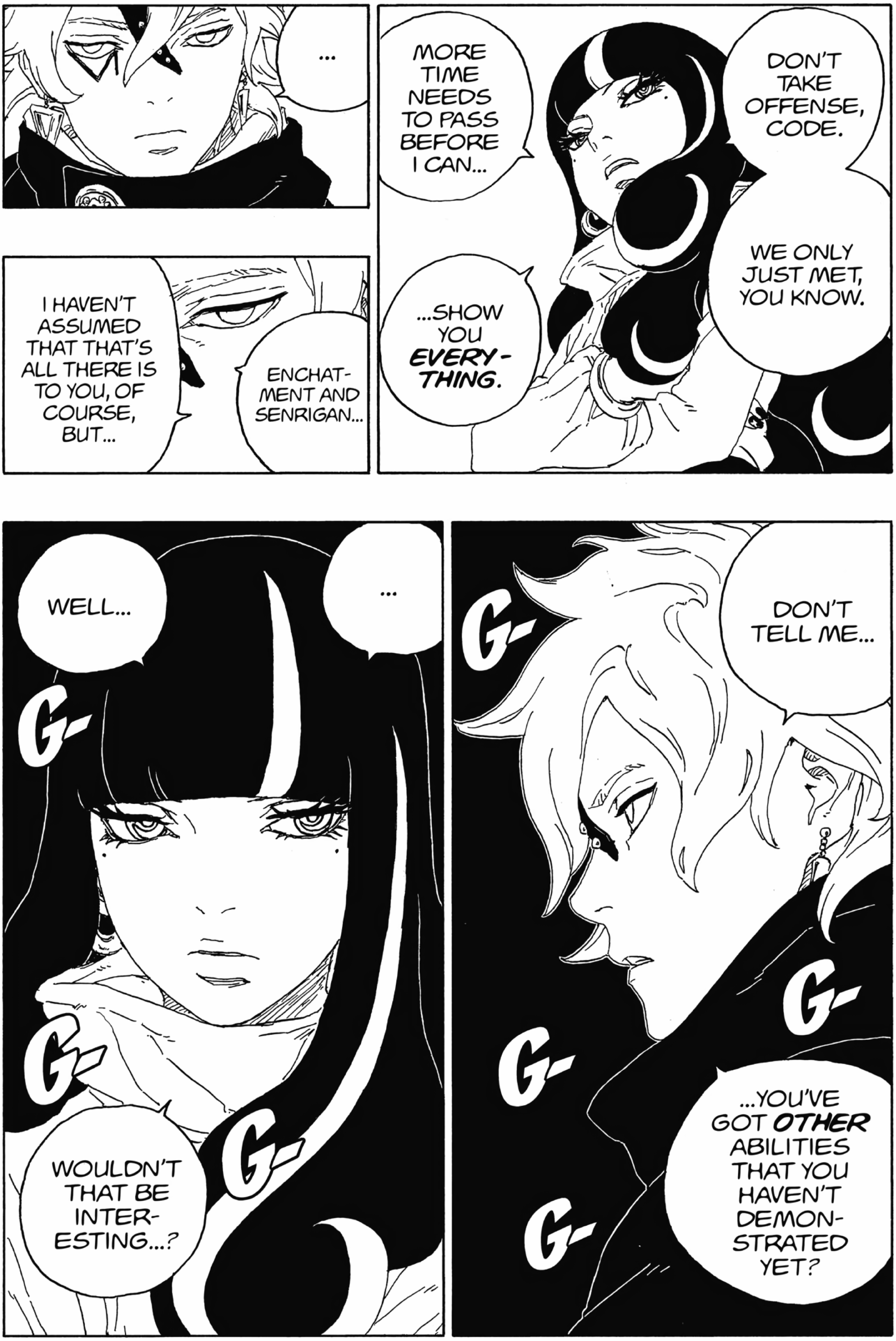

THWAP
!
WHA?!
—THE REFLECTION IS INSTANTANEOUS...
AND GIVEN HIS REACTION JUST NOW...
...DOES THE ABILITY KICK IN AUTOMATICALLY, REGARDLESS OF **HIS** INTENT?

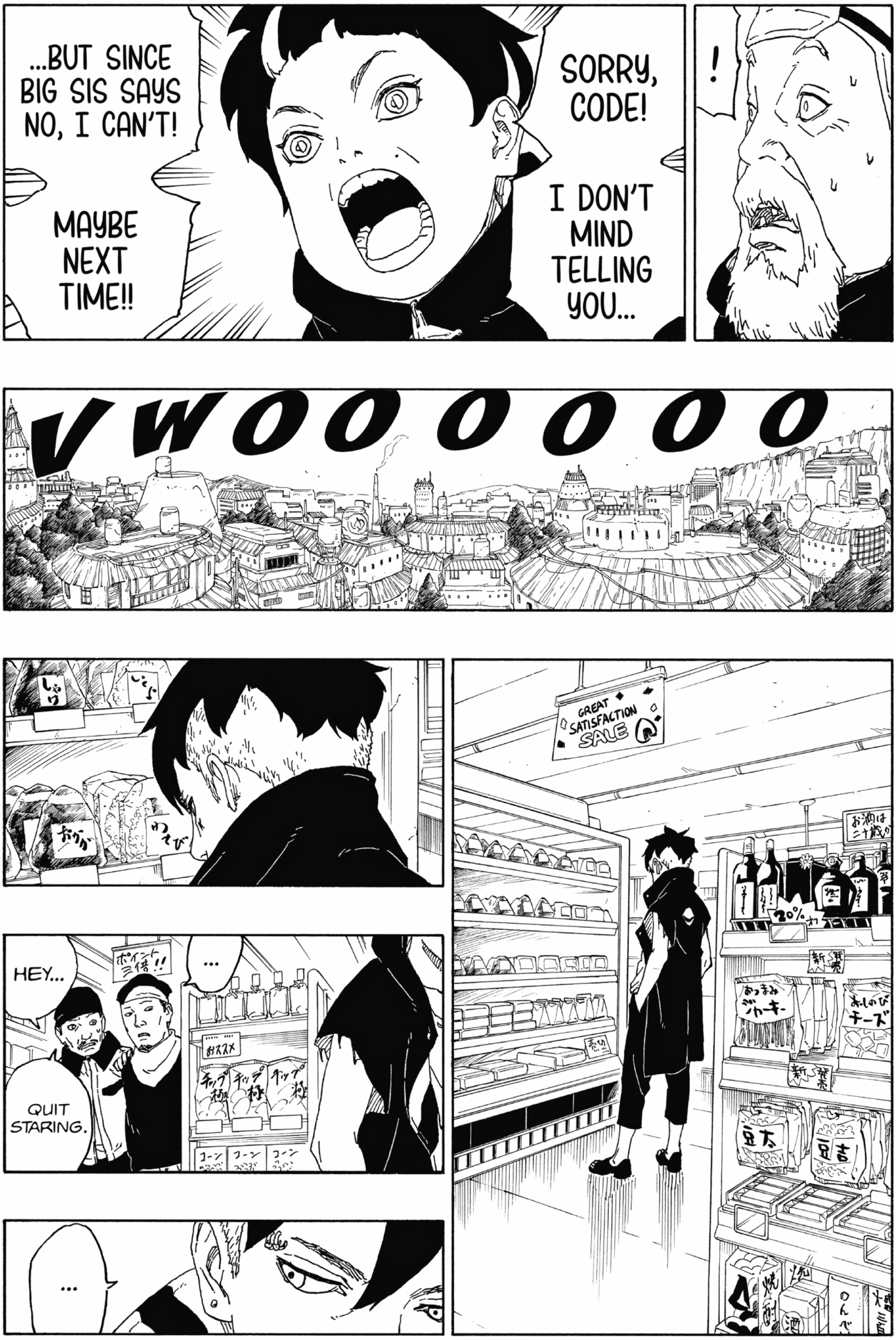

...
HEY, CODE!!
WHAT THE HECK?!
FSH
ZWP
!
THIS IS MY ABILITY.
I CAN MOVE FREELY BETWEEN CLAW MARKS.
I THOUGHT IT'D BE QUICKER TO SHOW YOU THAN EXPLAIN.

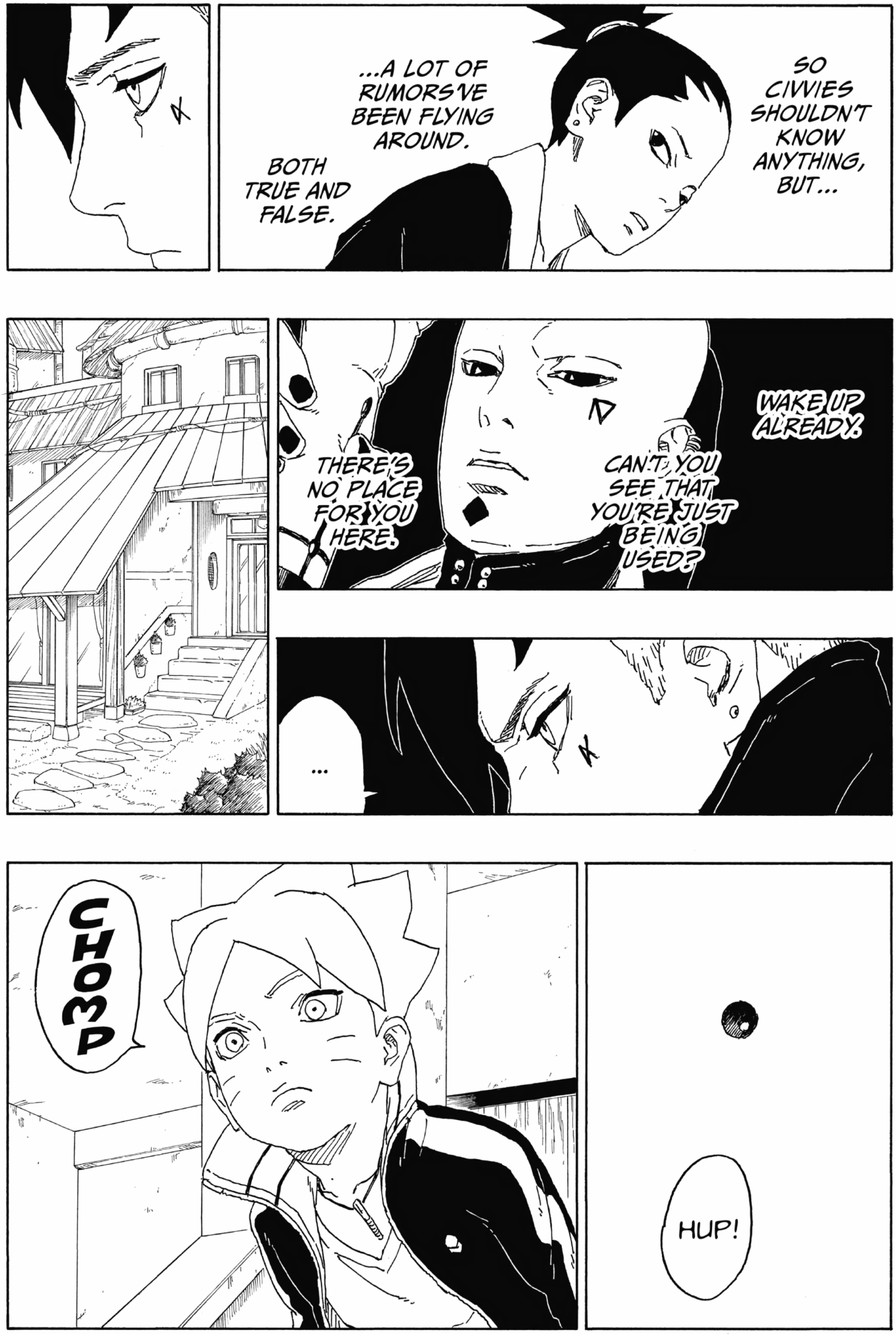

GRP
!
ZWSH
UNH!
ZLRP
WHOA…
WHILE IT ONLY ALLOWS *ME* TO GO BACK AND FORTH…
…I CAN BRING OTHERS TO ME IF IT'S ONE AT A TIME.

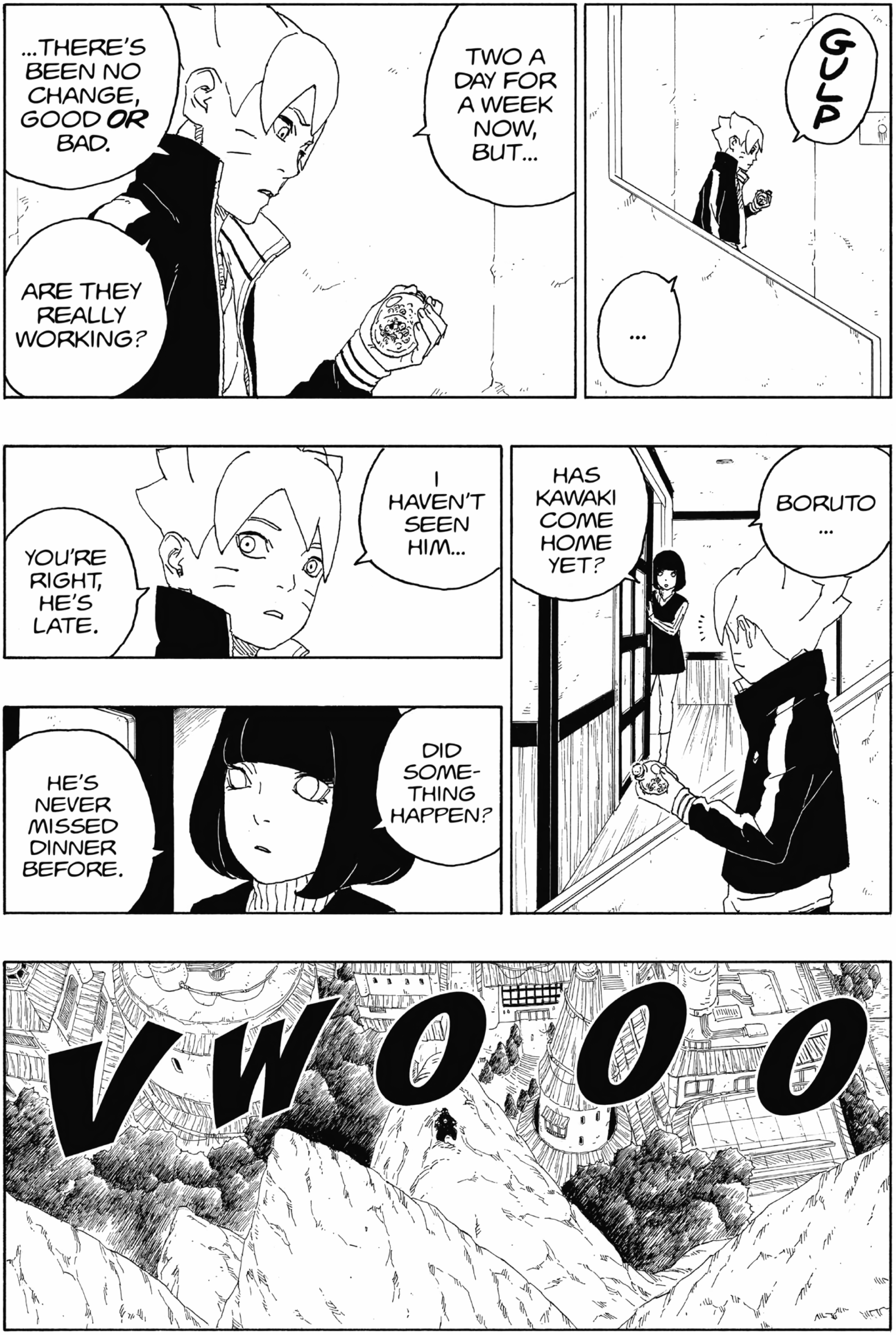

...
COOL.
TH-THANKS, CODE.
I OWE YOU ONE.
NO THANKS NEEDED.
I WAS MERELY CHECKING OUT...
...HIS REFLECTING ABILITY.
SSSH
THAT'S NEAT!
I LIKE IT!
WHY, THANK YOU.
MIND EXPLAINING TO ME IN A BIT MORE DETAIL...
...HOW YOUR ABILITY WORKS?
HUH?
WELL, Y'SEE...
DAEMON.

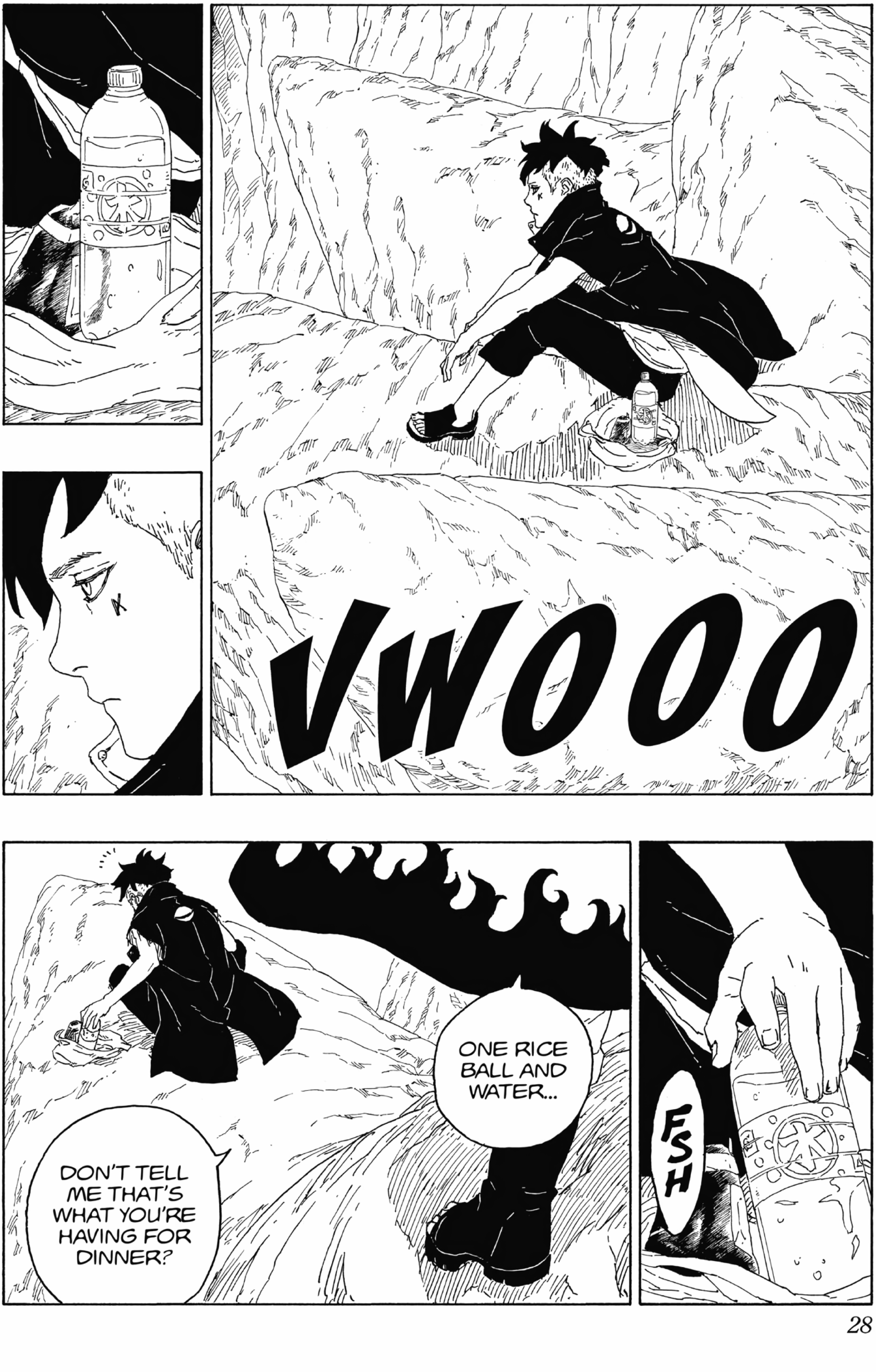

SHH...
YOU SHOULDN'T REVEAL YOUR CARDS SO READILY, HMM?
OH?
YOU DON'T TRUST ME?
I TOLD YOU ALREADY...
...THAT DAEMON REFLECTS ATTACKS.
THAT'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW.
AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING...
...
YOU REALLY ARE A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK.

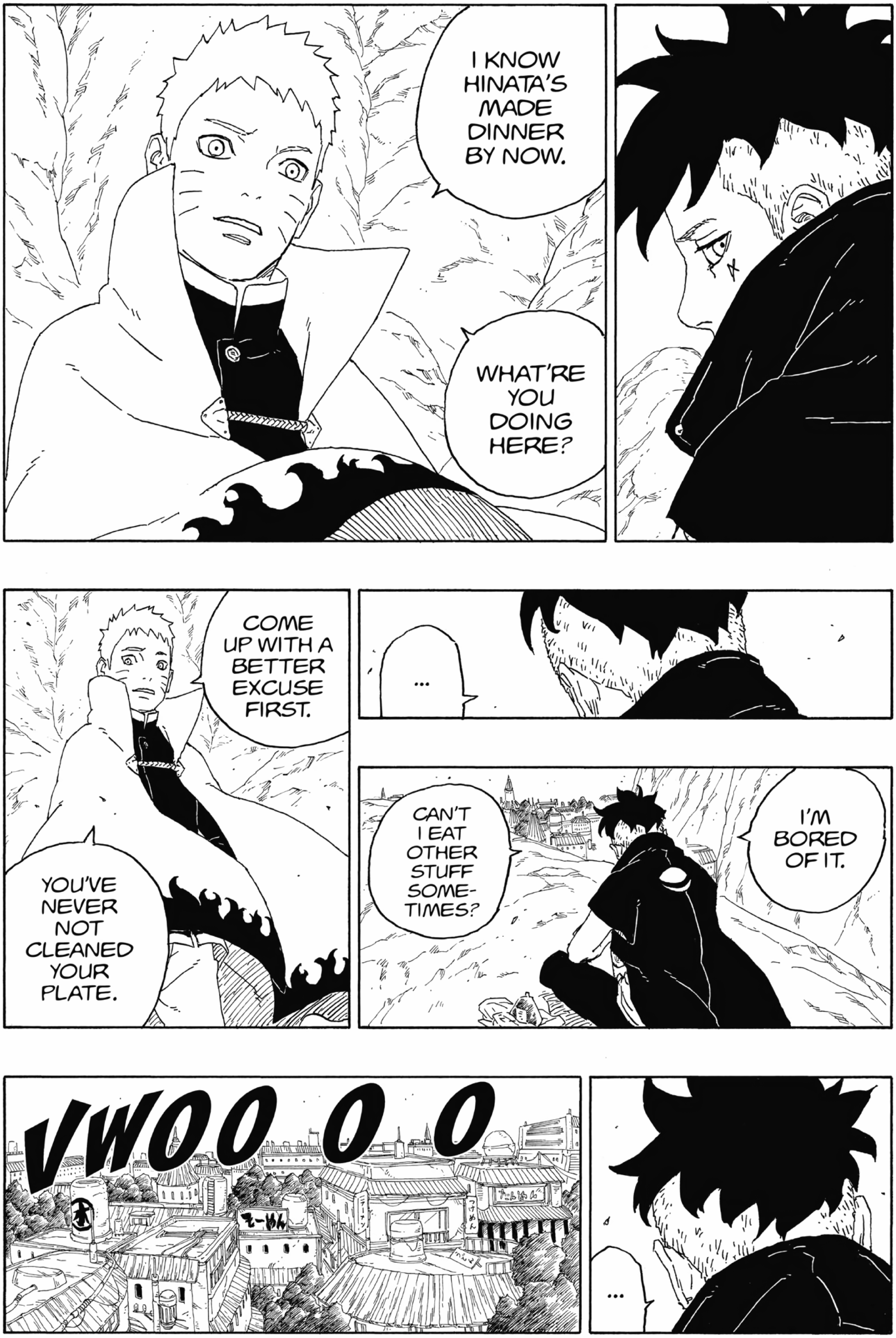

DON'T TAKE OFFENSE, CODE.
WE ONLY JUST MET, YOU KNOW.
MORE TIME NEEDS TO PASS BEFORE I CAN...
...SHOW YOU **EVERYTHING**.
...
ENCHATMENT AND SENRIGAN...
I HAVEN'T ASSUMED THAT THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO YOU, OF COURSE, BUT...
DON'T TELL ME...
G-
G-
G-
G-
...YOU'VE GOT **OTHER** ABILITIES THAT YOU HAVEN'T DEMONSTRATED YET?
...
WELL...
G-
G-
G-
WOULDN'T THAT BE INTERESTING...?

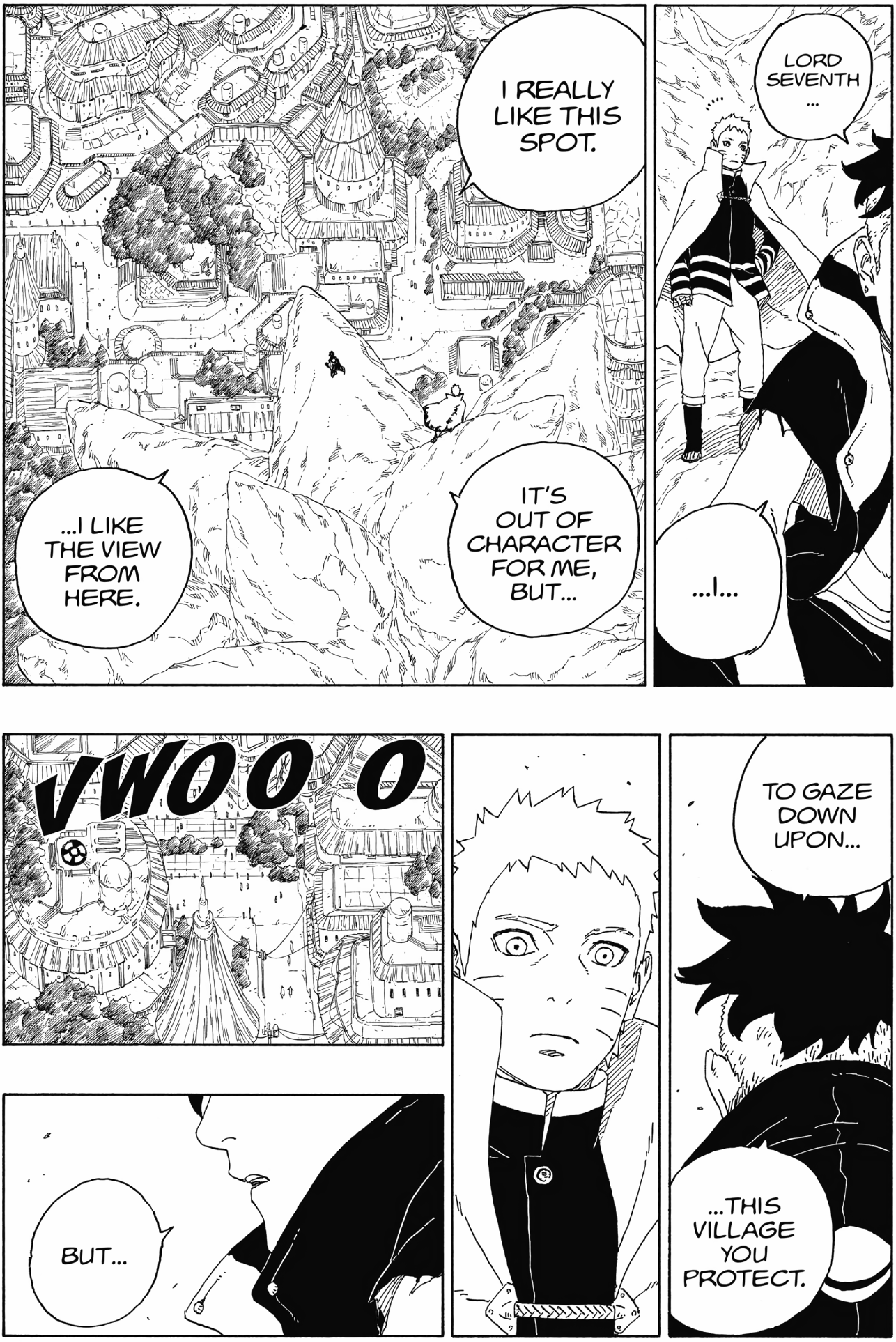

!
SORRY, CODE!
I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU...
...BUT SINCE BIG SIS SAYS NO, I CAN'T!
MAYBE NEXT TIME!!
VWOOOOOOO
GREAT SATISFACTION SALE
お酒は二十歳から
20%オフ
新発売
おつまみジャーキー
おしのびチーズ
新発売
豆太
豆吉
焼酎
しゃけ
いくら
おかか
わさび
ポイント三倍!!
おススメ
チップ極
コーン
HEY...
QUIT STARING.
...
...

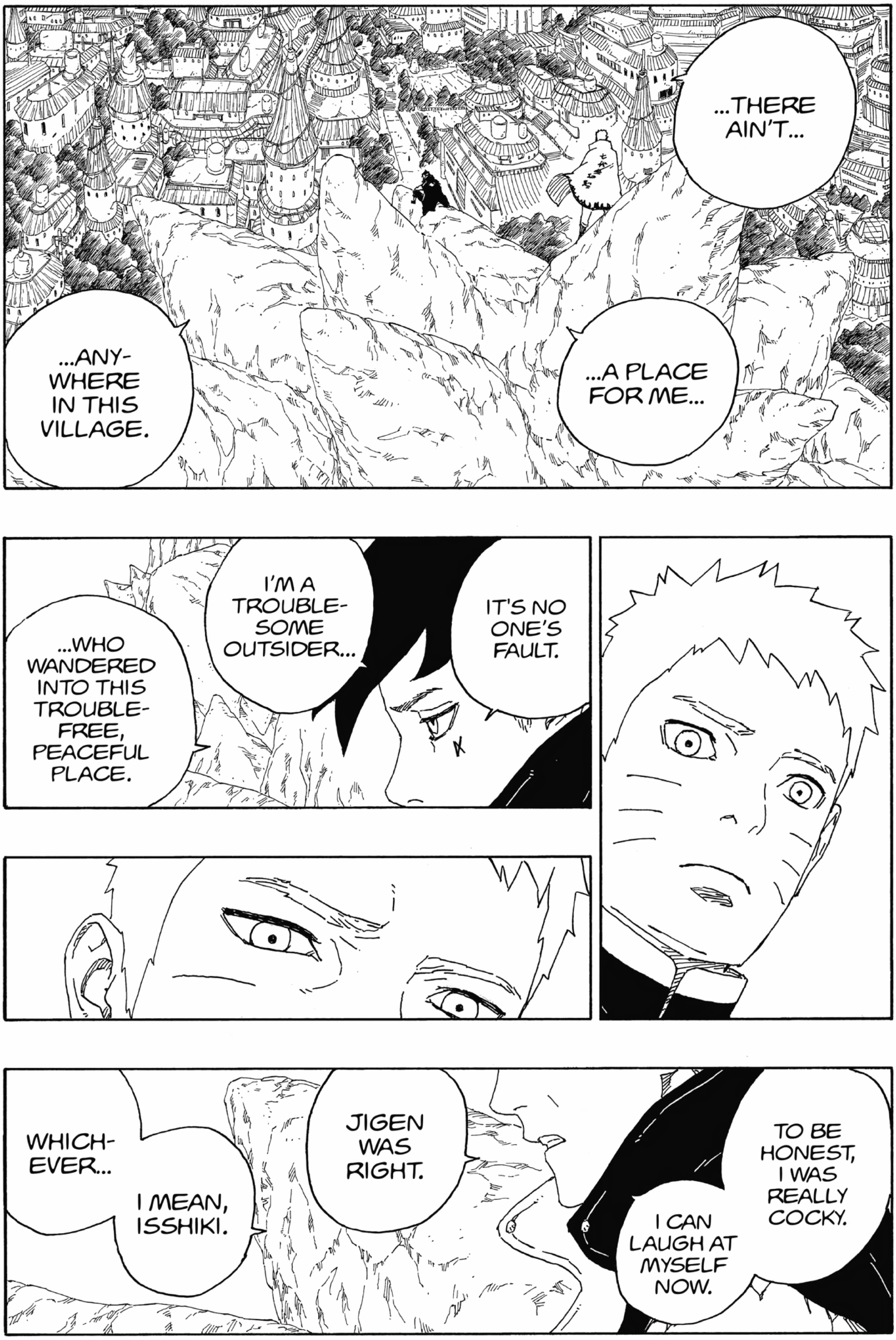

SO CIVVIES SHOULDN'T KNOW ANYTHING, BUT...
...A LOT OF RUMORS'VE BEEN FLYING AROUND.
BOTH TRUE AND FALSE.
WAKE UP ALREADY.
CAN'T YOU SEE THAT YOU'RE JUST BEING USED?
THERE'S NO PLACE FOR YOU HERE.
...
HUP!
CHOMP

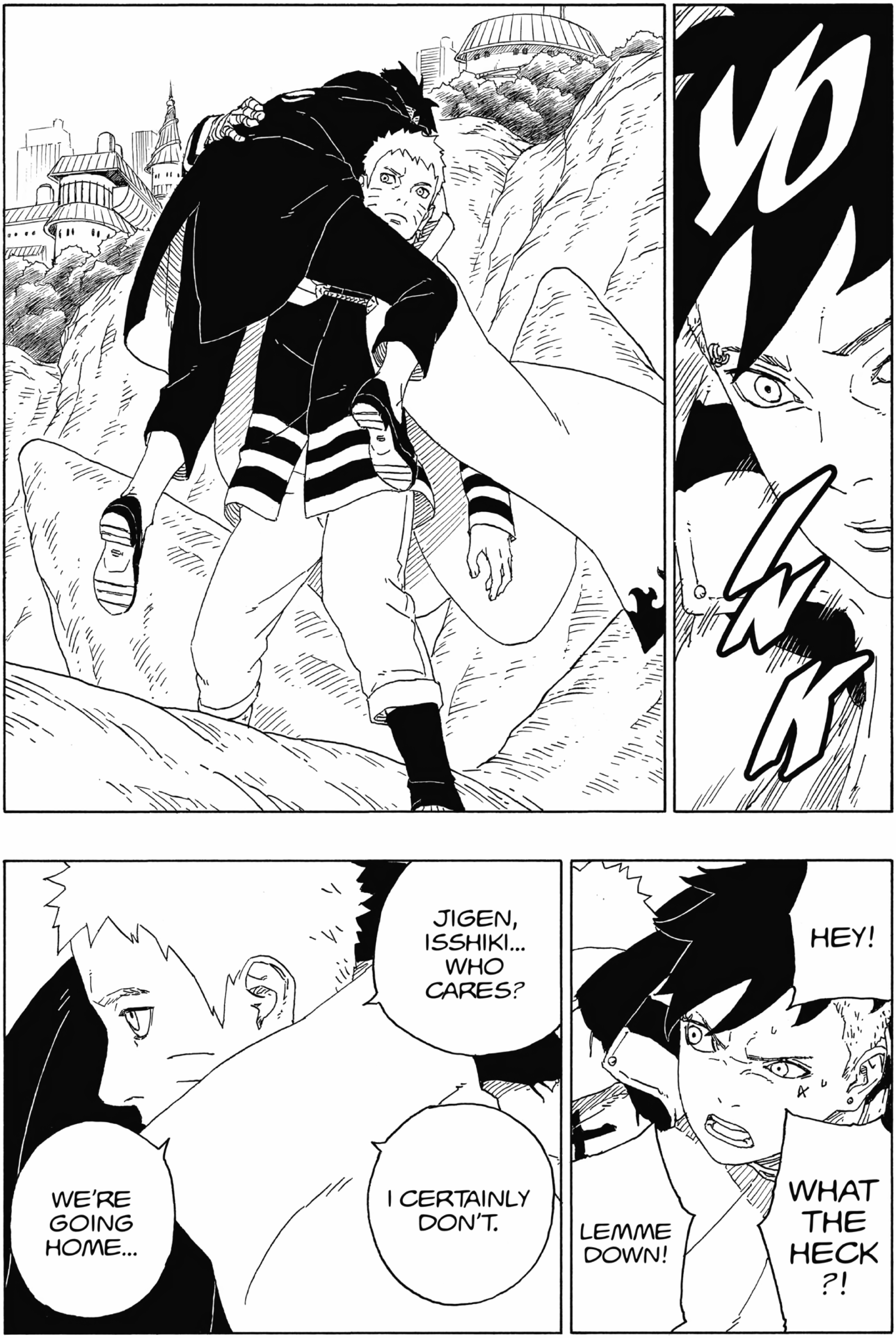

GULP
...
TWO A DAY FOR A WEEK NOW, BUT...
...THERE'S BEEN NO CHANGE, GOOD **OR** BAD.
ARE THEY REALLY WORKING?
BORUTO...
HAS KAWAKI COME HOME YET?
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM...
YOU'RE RIGHT, HE'S LATE.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
HE'S NEVER MISSED DINNER BEFORE.
VWOOO

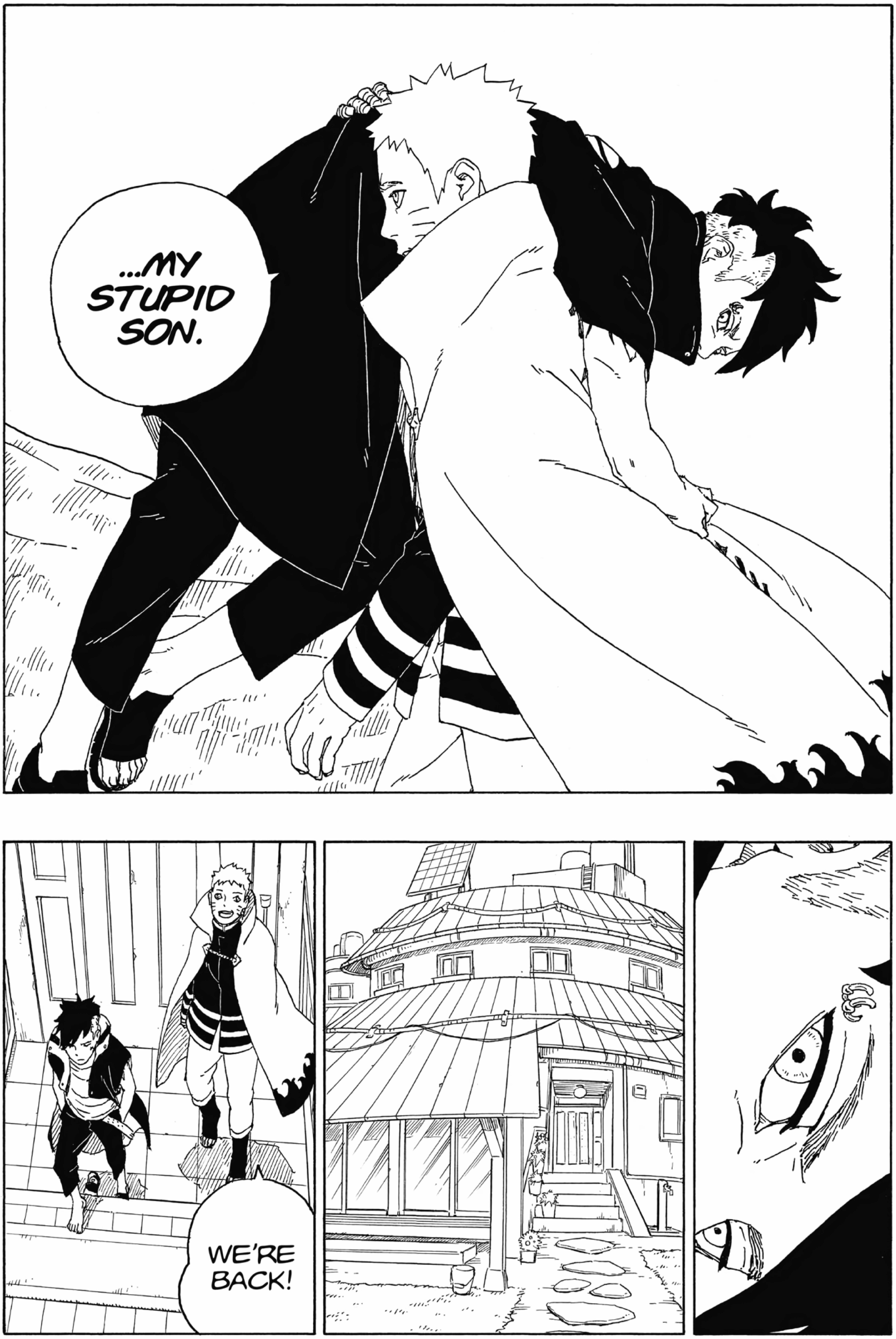

VWOOO
ONE RICE BALL AND WATER...
DON'T TELL ME THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE HAVING FOR DINNER?
FSH

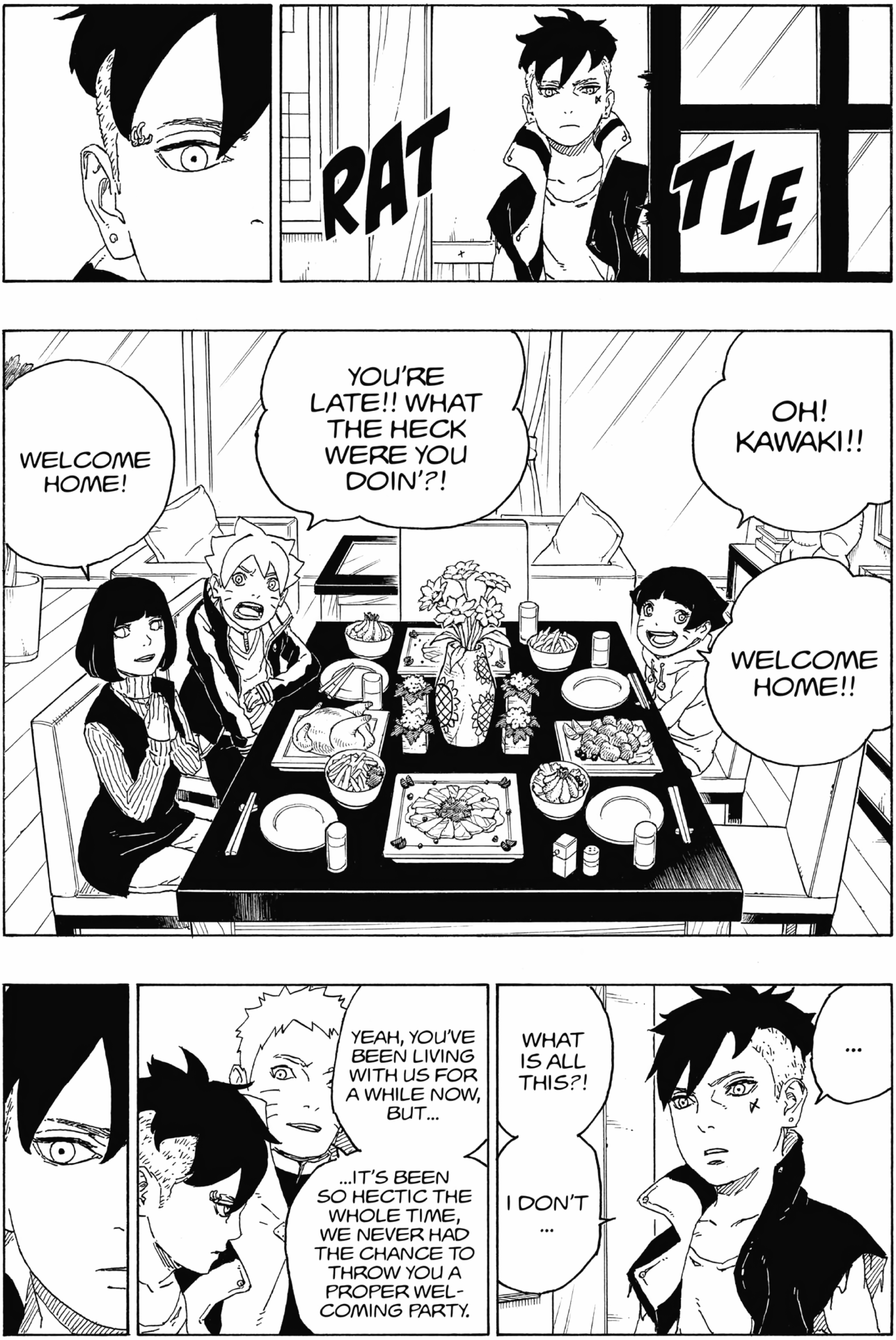

I KNOW HINATA'S MADE DINNER BY NOW.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
...
I'M BORED OF IT.
CAN'T I EAT OTHER STUFF SOME-TIMES?
COME UP WITH A BETTER EXCUSE FIRST.
YOU'VE NEVER NOT CLEANED YOUR PLATE.
...
VWOO O O

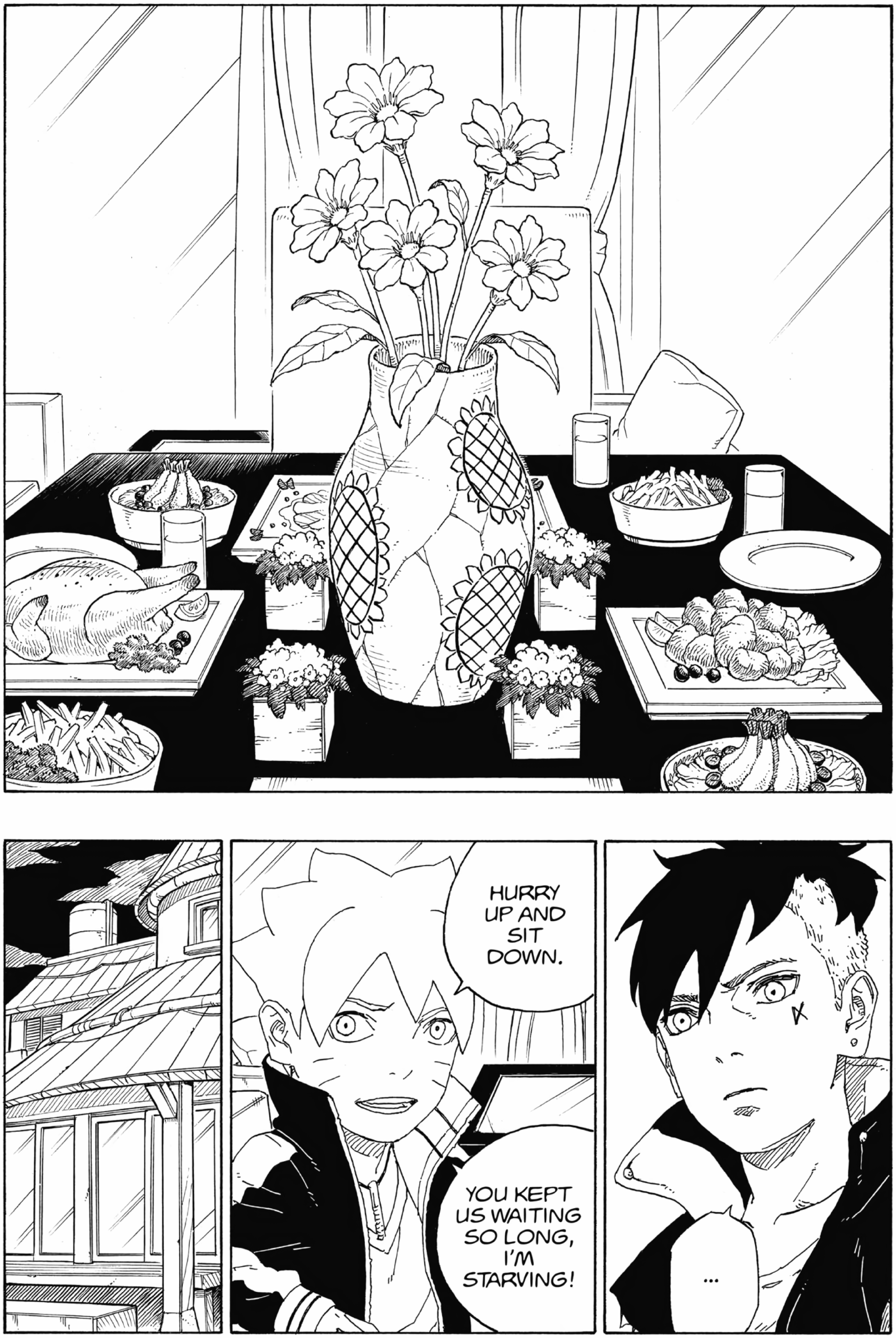

LORD SEVENTH ...
...I...
I REALLY LIKE THIS SPOT.
IT'S OUT OF CHARACTER FOR ME, BUT...
...I LIKE THE VIEW FROM HERE.
TO GAZE DOWN UPON...
...THIS VILLAGE YOU PROTECT.
VWOOO
BUT...

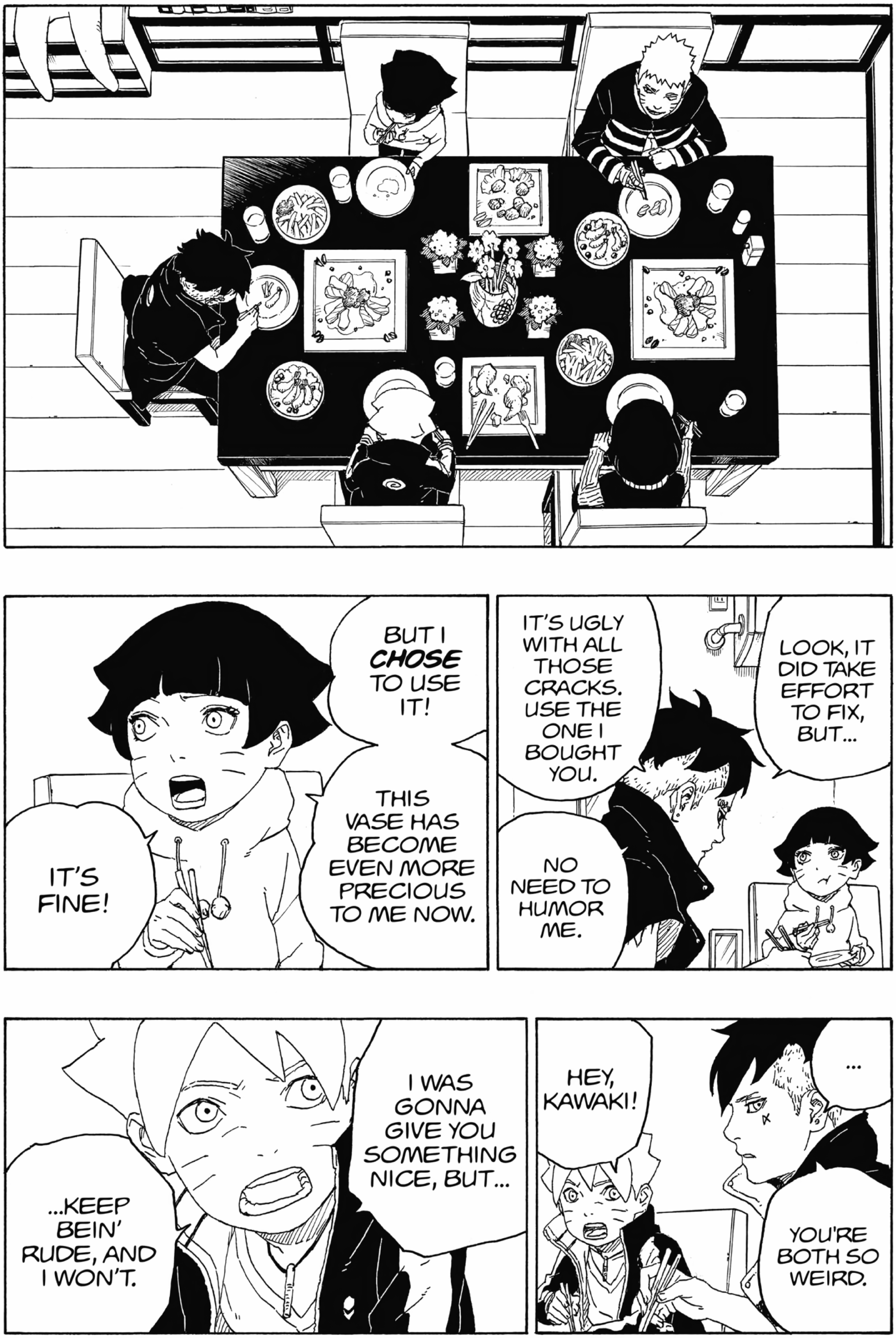

...THERE AIN'T...
...A PLACE FOR ME...
...ANYWHERE IN THIS VILLAGE.
IT'S NO ONE'S FAULT.
I'M A TROUBLESOME OUTSIDER...
...WHO WANDERED INTO THIS TROUBLE-FREE, PEACEFUL PLACE.
TO BE HONEST, I WAS REALLY COCKY.
I CAN LAUGH AT MYSELF NOW.
JIGEN WAS RIGHT.
I MEAN, ISSHIKI.
WHICHEVER...

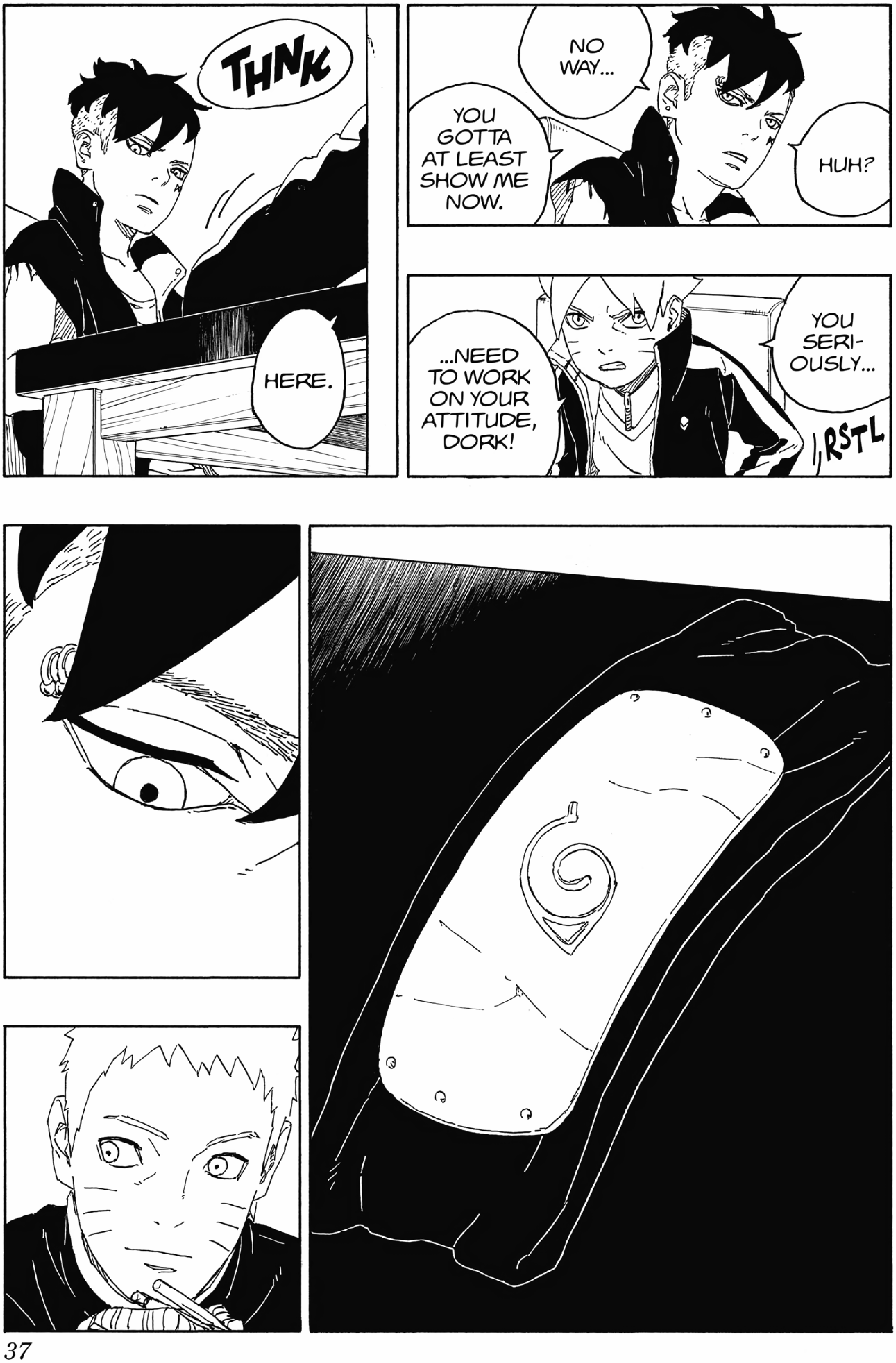

YOINK
HEY!
WHAT THE HECK?!
LEMME DOWN!
JIGEN, ISSHIKI... WHO CARES?
I CERTAINLY DON'T.
WE'RE GOING HOME...

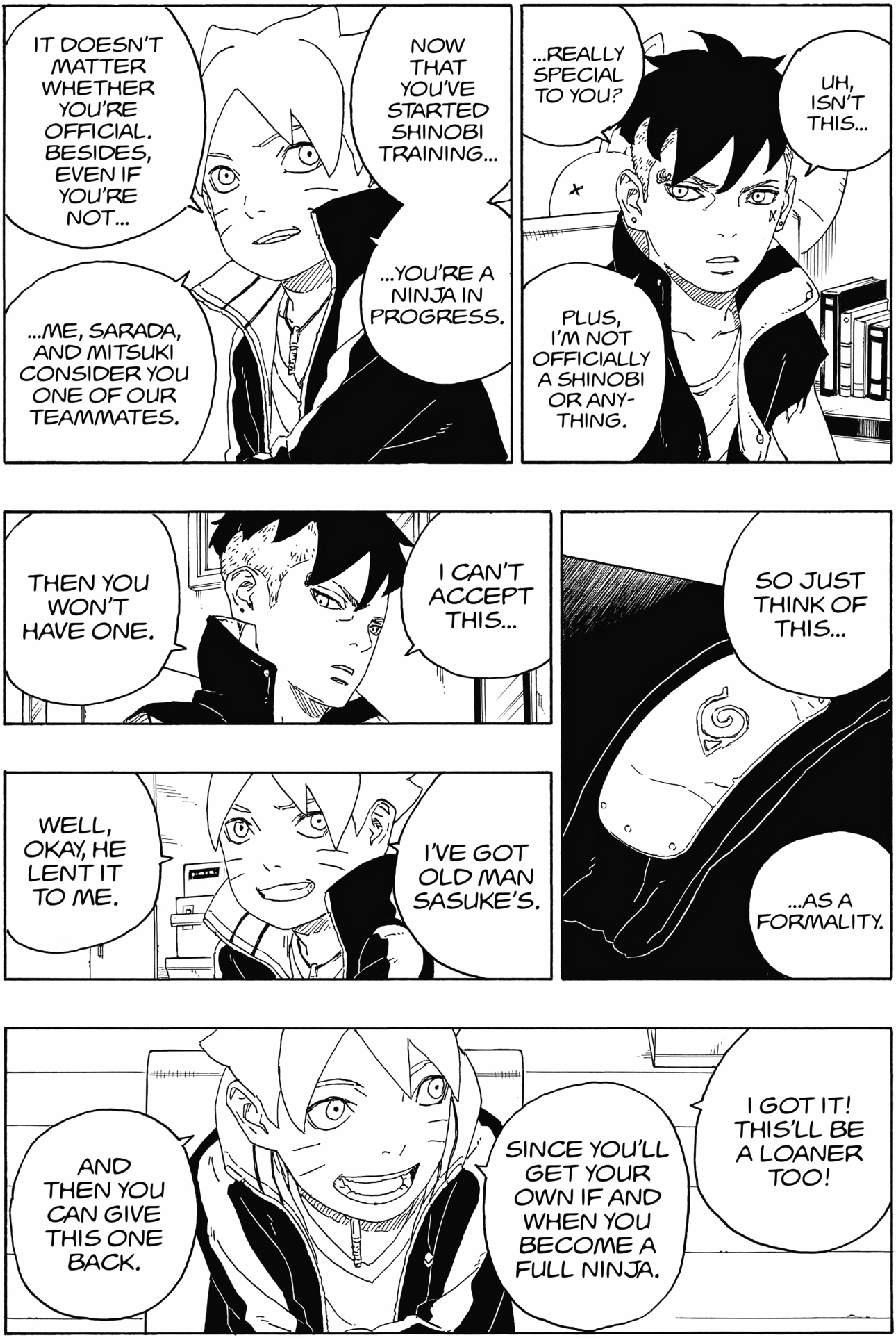

...MY STUPID SON.
WE'RE BACK!

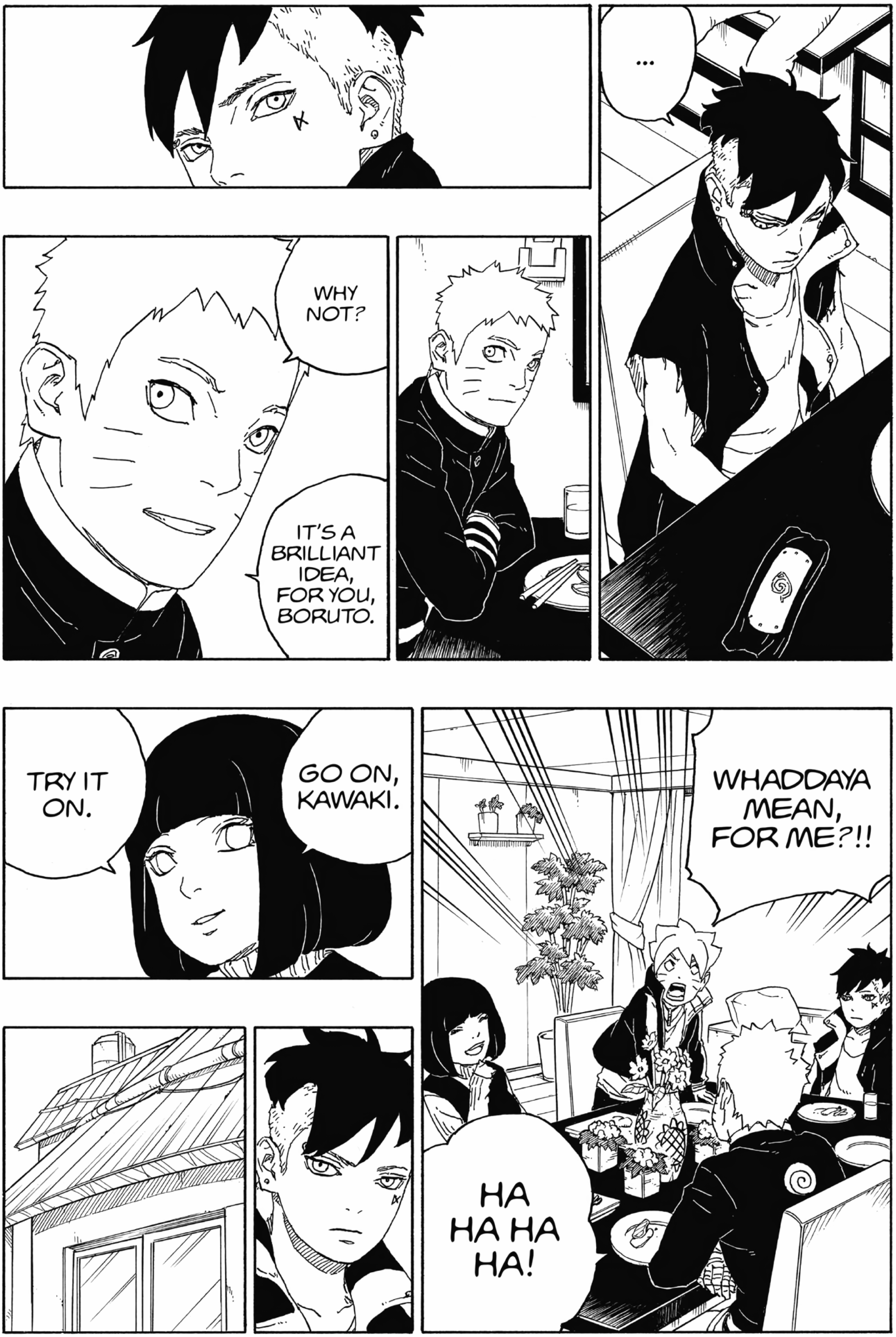

RATTLE
OH! KAWAKI!!
WELCOME HOME!!
YOU'RE LATE!! WHAT THE HECK WERE YOU DOIN'?!
WELCOME HOME!
...
WHAT IS ALL THIS?!
I DON'T ...
YEAH, YOU'VE BEEN LIVING WITH US FOR A WHILE NOW, BUT...
...IT'S BEEN SO HECTIC THE WHOLE TIME, WE NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO THROW YOU A PROPER WELCOMING PARTY.

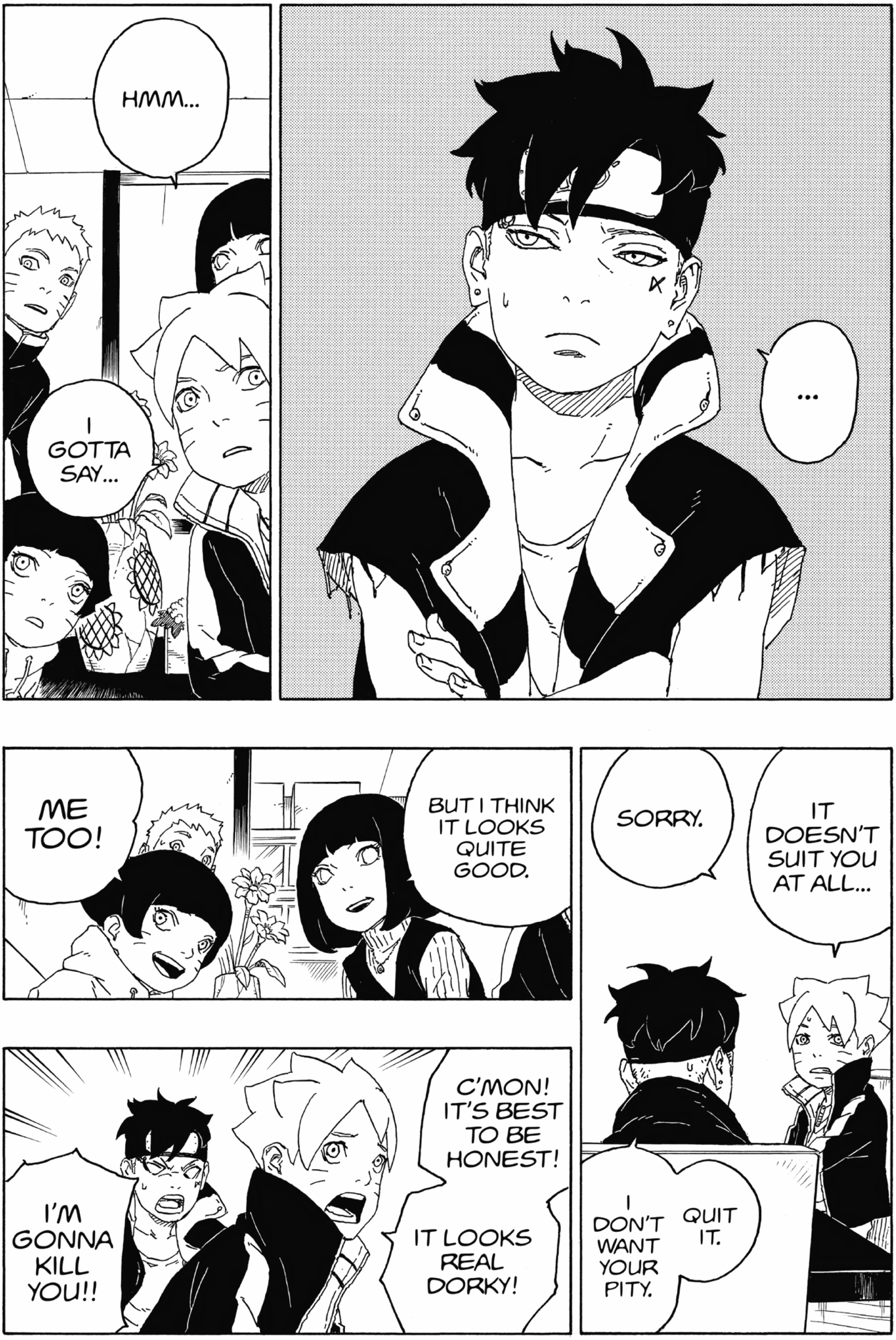

...
HURRY UP AND SIT DOWN.
YOU KEPT US WAITING SO LONG, I'M STARVING!

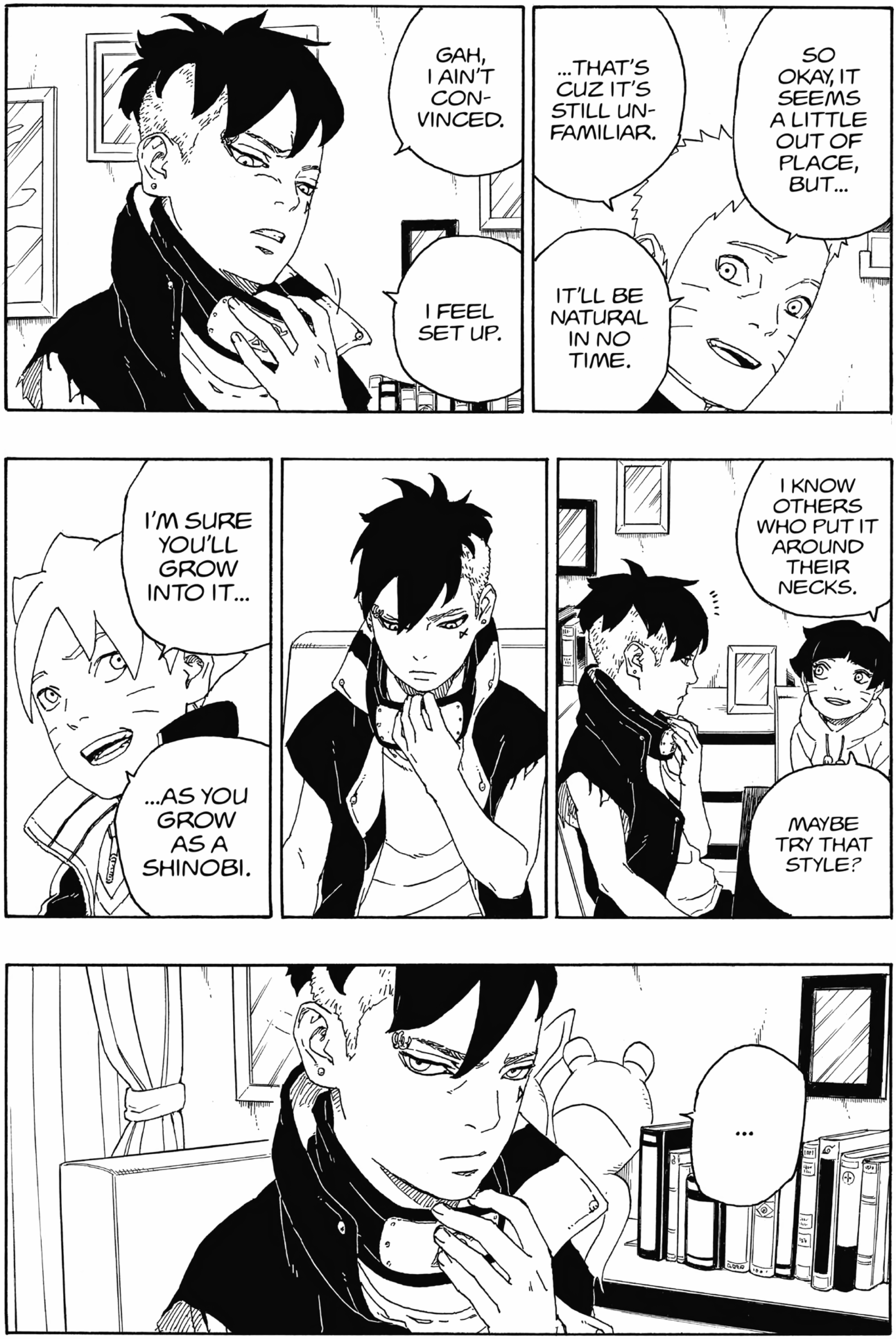

LOOK, IT DID TAKE EFFORT TO FIX, BUT...
IT'S UGLY WITH ALL THOSE CRACKS. USE THE ONE I BOUGHT YOU.
NO NEED TO HUMOR ME.
BUT I ***CHOSE*** TO USE IT!
THIS VASE HAS BECOME EVEN MORE PRECIOUS TO ME NOW.
IT'S FINE!
...
HEY, KAWAKI!
YOU'RE BOTH SO WEIRD.
I WAS GONNA GIVE YOU SOMETHING NICE, BUT...
...KEEP BEIN' RUDE, AND I WON'T.

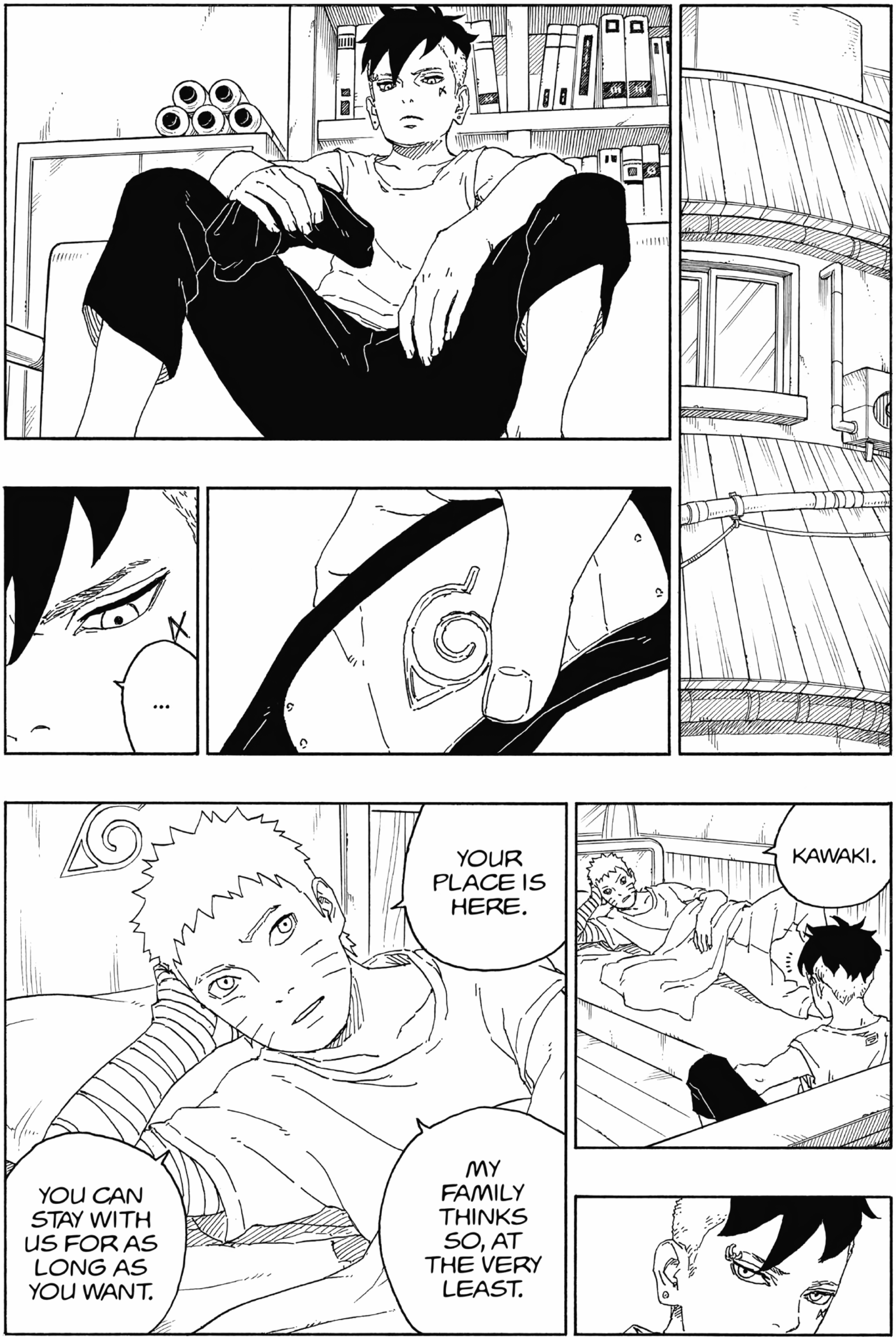

HUH?
NO WAY...
YOU GOTTA AT LEAST SHOW ME NOW.
YOU SERIOUSLY...
...NEED TO WORK ON YOUR ATTITUDE, DORK!
RSTL
THNK
HERE.

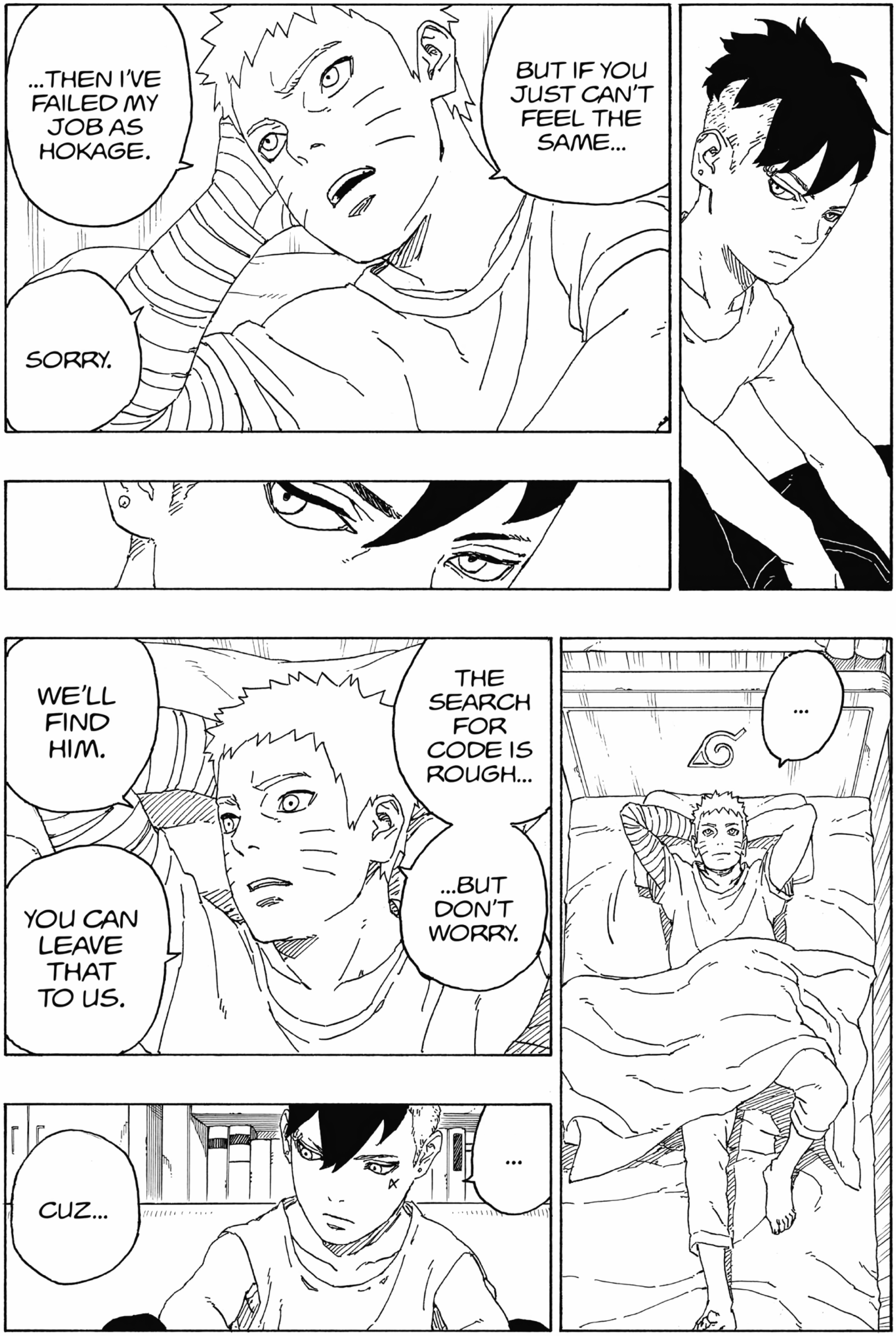

UH, ISN'T THIS...
...REALLY SPECIAL TO YOU?
PLUS, I'M NOT OFFICIALLY A SHINOBI OR ANYTHING.
NOW THAT YOU'VE STARTED SHINOBI TRAINING...
...YOU'RE A NINJA IN PROGRESS.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER YOU'RE OFFICIAL. BESIDES, EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT...
...ME, SARADA, AND MITSUKI CONSIDER YOU ONE OF OUR TEAMMATES.
SO JUST THINK OF THIS...
...AS A FORMALITY.
I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS...
THEN YOU WON'T HAVE ONE.
I'VE GOT OLD MAN SASUKE'S.
WELL, OKAY, HE LENT IT TO ME.
I GOT IT! THIS'LL BE A LOANER TOO!
SINCE YOU'LL GET YOUR OWN IF AND WHEN YOU BECOME A FULL NINJA.
AND THEN YOU CAN GIVE THIS ONE BACK.

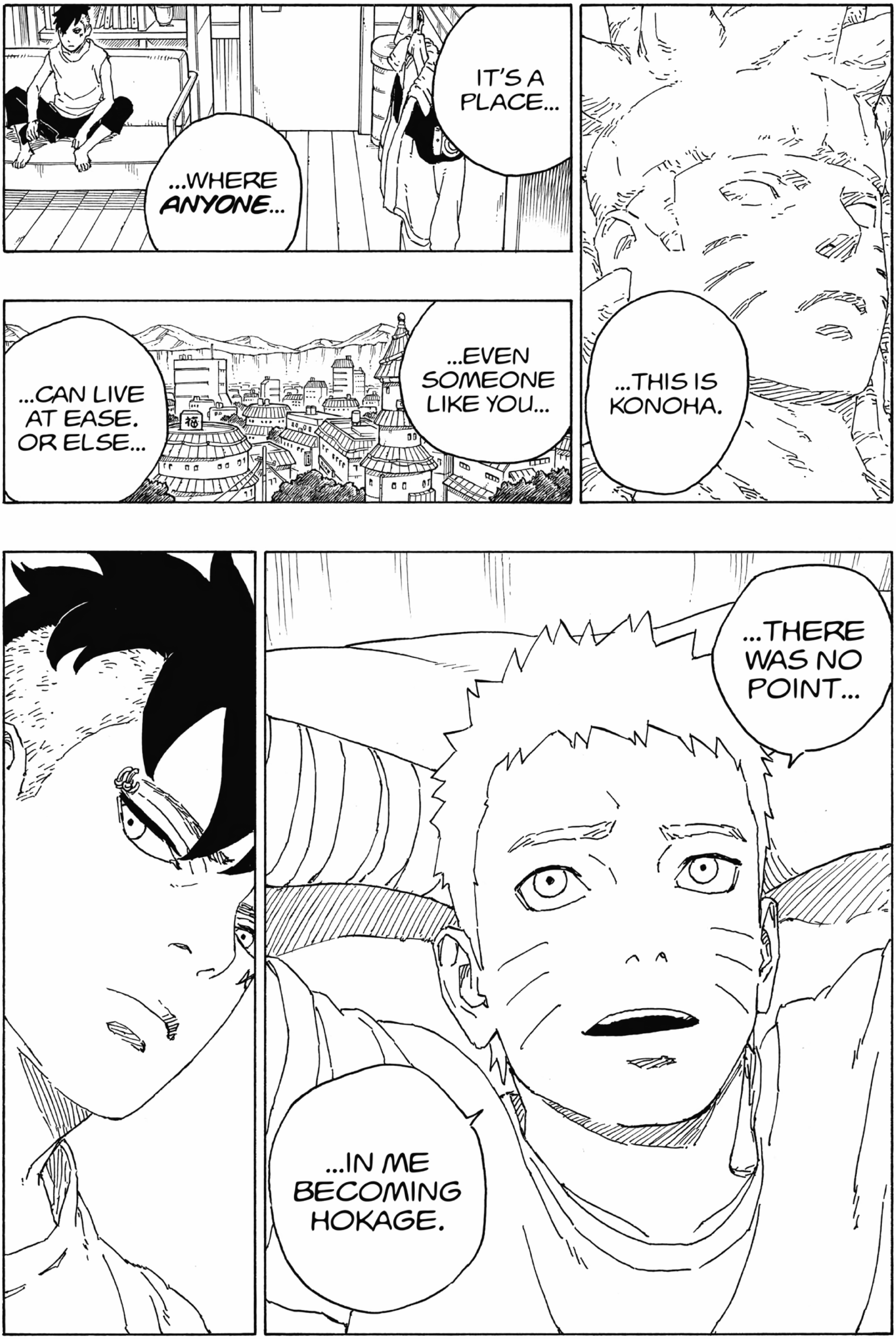

...
WHY NOT?
IT'S A BRILLIANT IDEA, FOR YOU, BORUTO.
WHADDAYA MEAN, FOR ME?!!
HA HA HA HA!
GO ON, KAWAKI.
TRY IT ON.

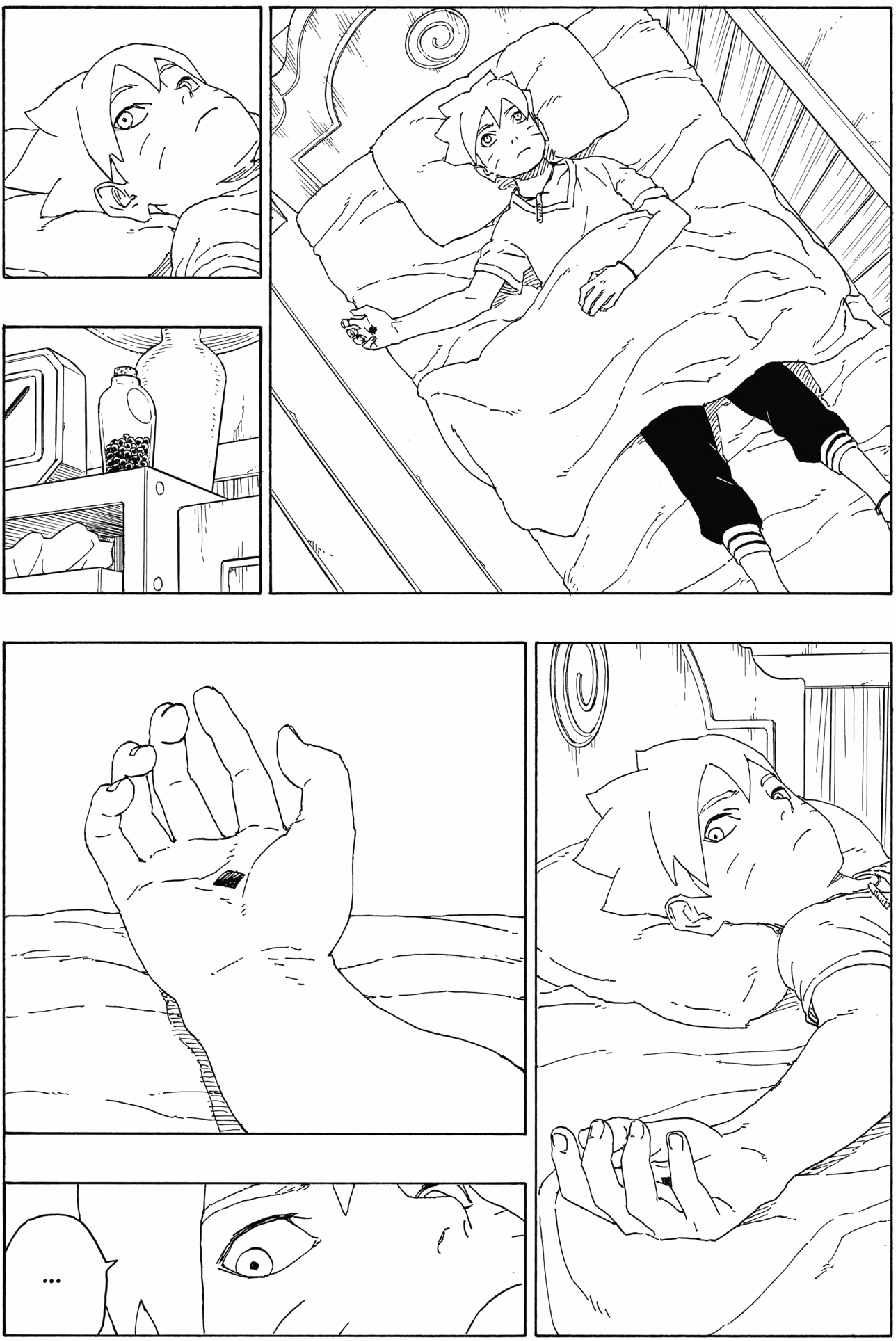

...
HMM...
I GOTTA SAY...
IT DOESN'T SUIT YOU AT ALL...
SORRY.
QUIT IT.
I DON'T WANT YOUR PITY.
BUT I THINK IT LOOKS QUITE GOOD.
ME TOO!
C'MON! IT'S BEST TO BE HONEST!
IT LOOKS REAL DORKY!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!

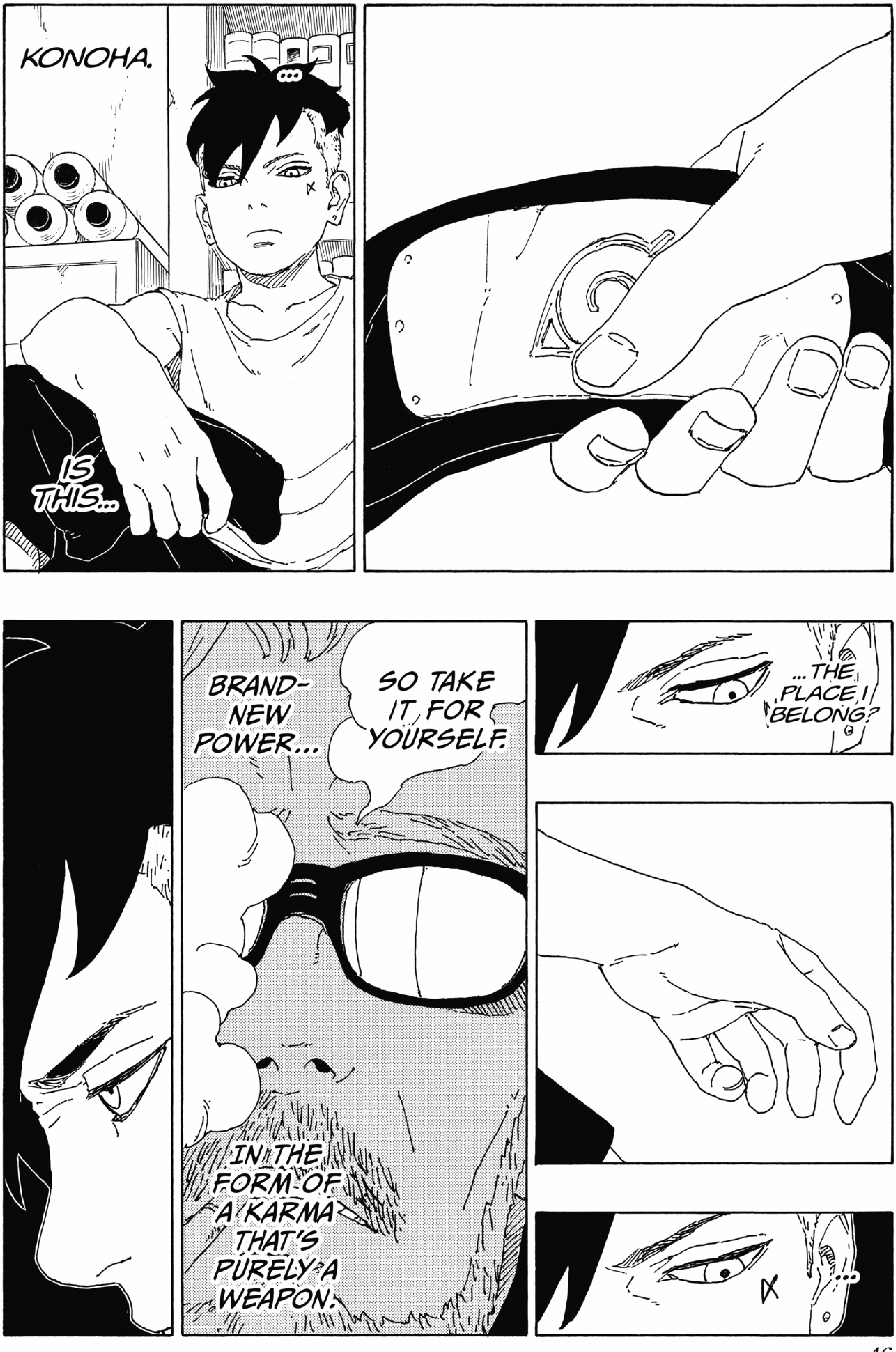

SO OKAY, IT SEEMS A LITTLE OUT OF PLACE, BUT...
...THAT'S CUZ IT'S STILL UNFAMILIAR.
IT'LL BE NATURAL IN NO TIME.
GAH, I AIN'T CONVINCED.
I FEEL SET UP.
I KNOW OTHERS WHO PUT IT AROUND THEIR NECKS.
MAYBE TRY THAT STYLE?
I'M SURE YOU'LL GROW INTO IT...
...AS YOU GROW AS A SHINOBI.
...

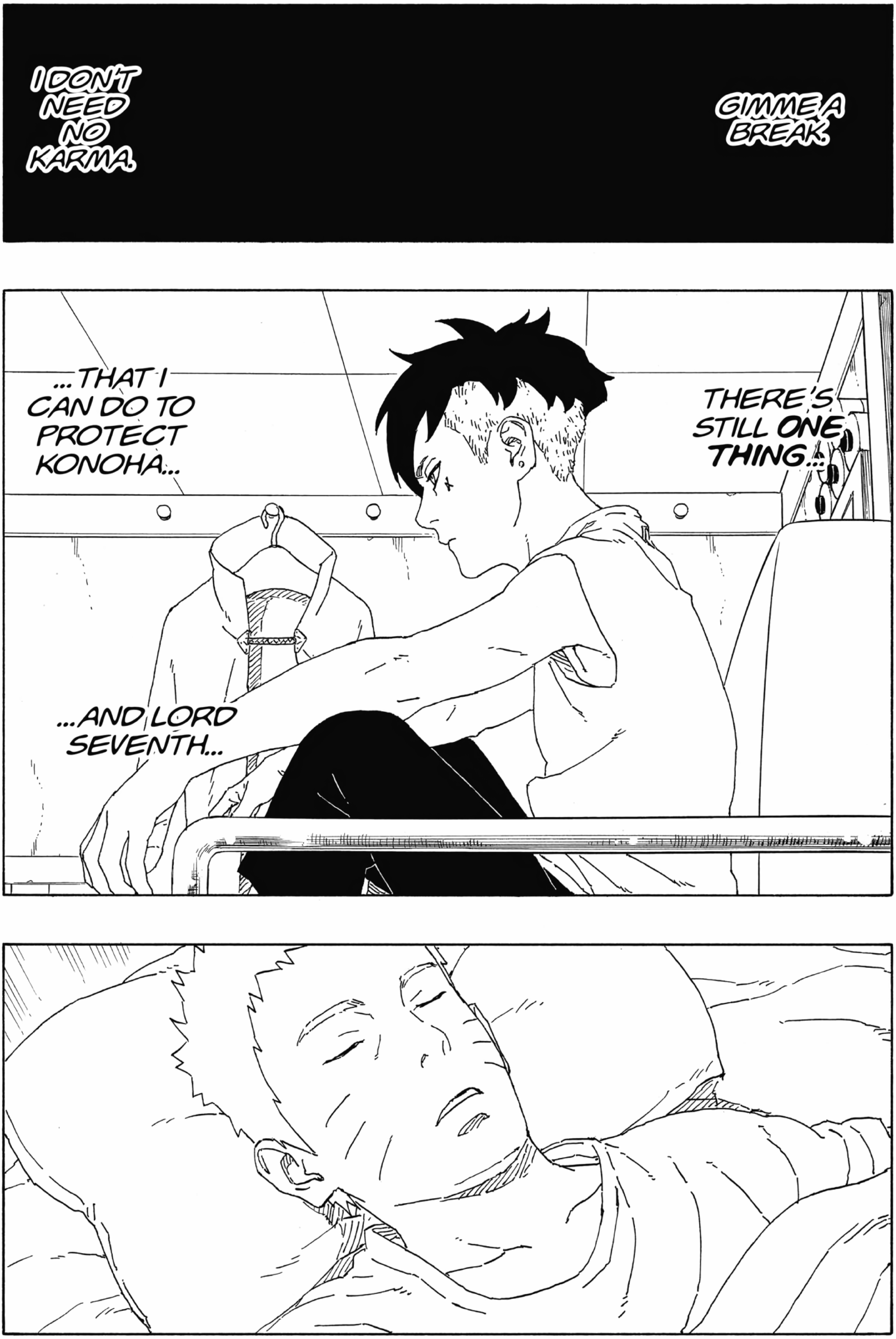

...
KAWAKI.
YOUR PLACE IS HERE.
MY FAMILY THINKS SO, AT THE VERY LEAST.
YOU CAN STAY WITH US FOR AS LONG AS YOU WANT.

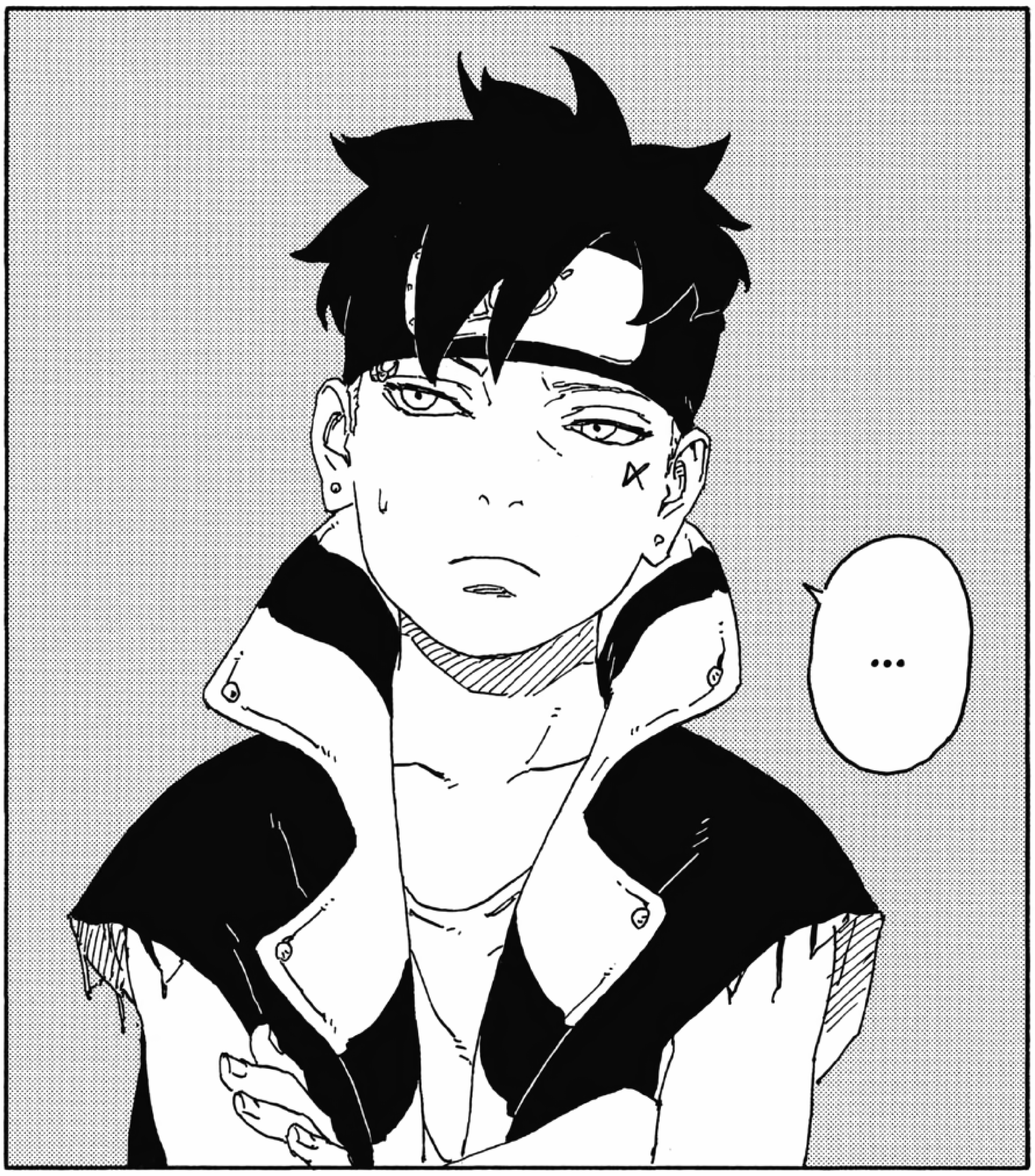

BUT IF YOU JUST CAN'T FEEL THE SAME...
...THEN I'VE FAILED MY JOB AS HOKAGE.
SORRY.
...
THE SEARCH FOR CODE IS ROUGH...
...BUT DON'T WORRY.
WE'LL FIND HIM.
YOU CAN LEAVE THAT TO US.
...
CUZ...


...THIS IS KONOHA.
IT'S A PLACE...
...WHERE *ANYONE*...
...EVEN SOMEONE LIKE YOU...
...CAN LIVE AT EASE. OR ELSE...
...THERE WAS NO POINT...
...IN ME BECOMING HOKAGE.



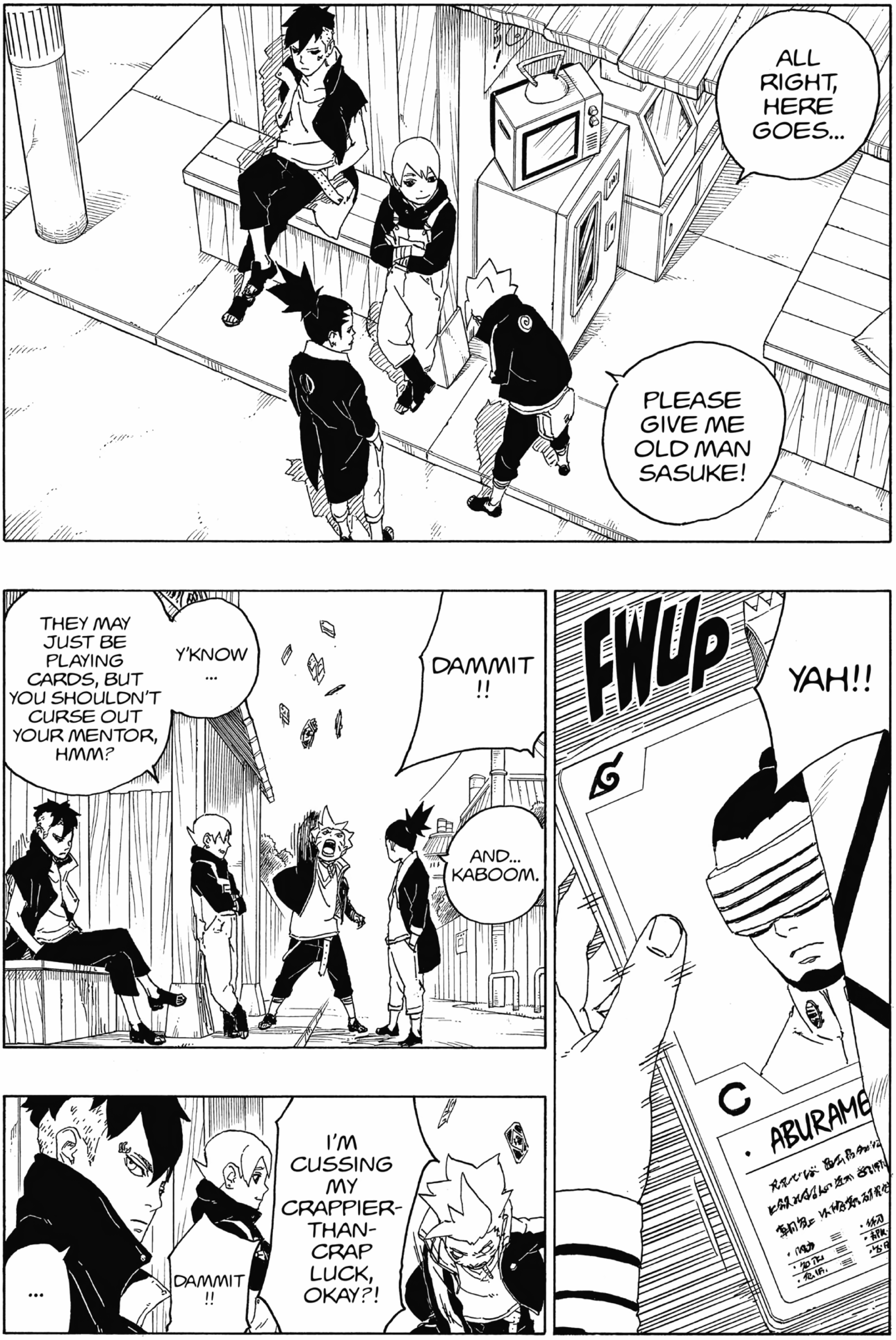

KONOHA.
IS THIS...
...THE PLACE I BELONG?
...
BRAND-NEW POWER...
IN THE FORM OF A KARMA THAT'S PURELY A WEAPON.
SO TAKE IT FOR YOURSELF.

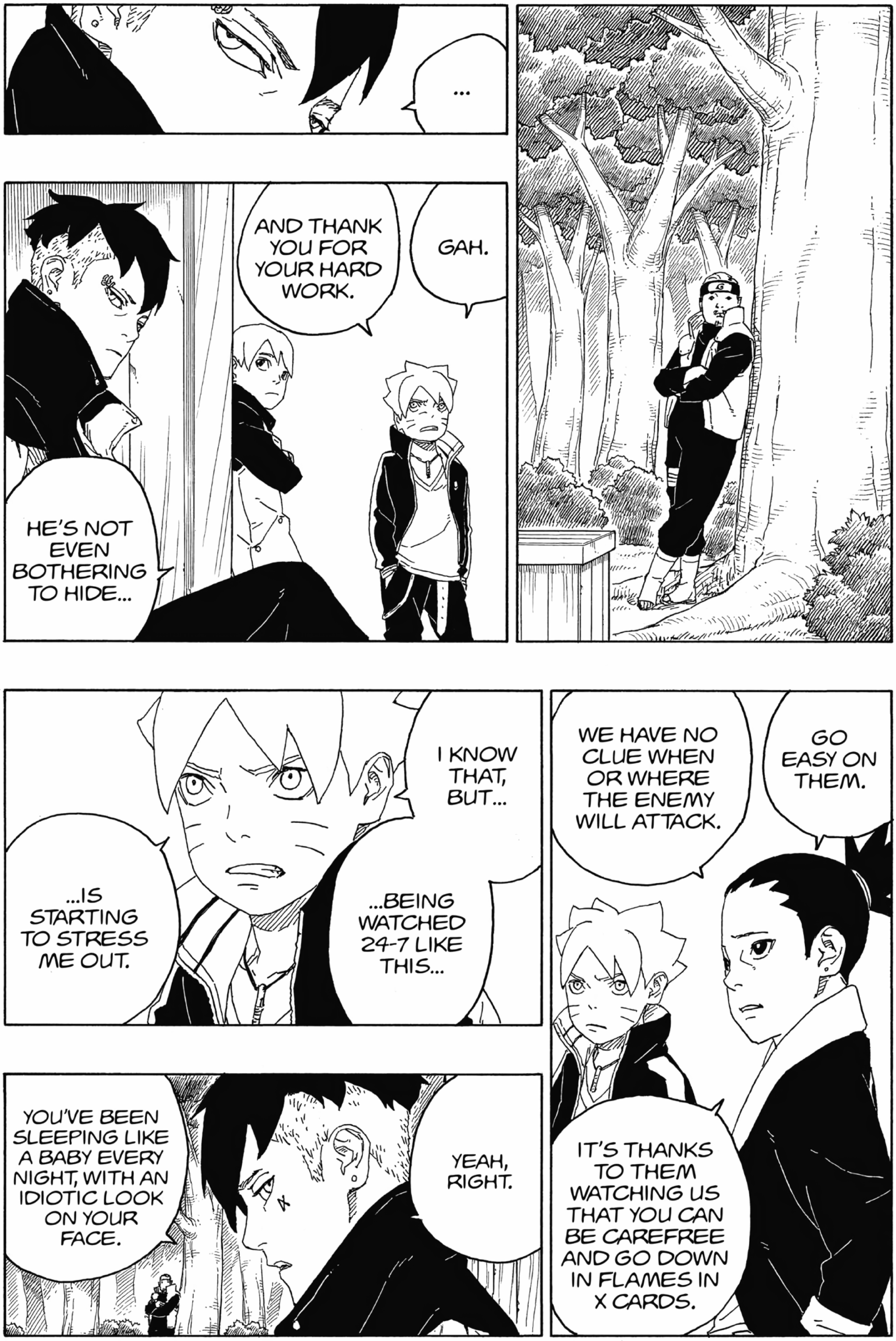

GIMME A BREAK.
I DON'T NEED NO KARMA.
THERE'S STILL **ONE THING**...
...THAT I CAN DO TO PROTECT KONOHA...
...AND LORD SEVENTH...

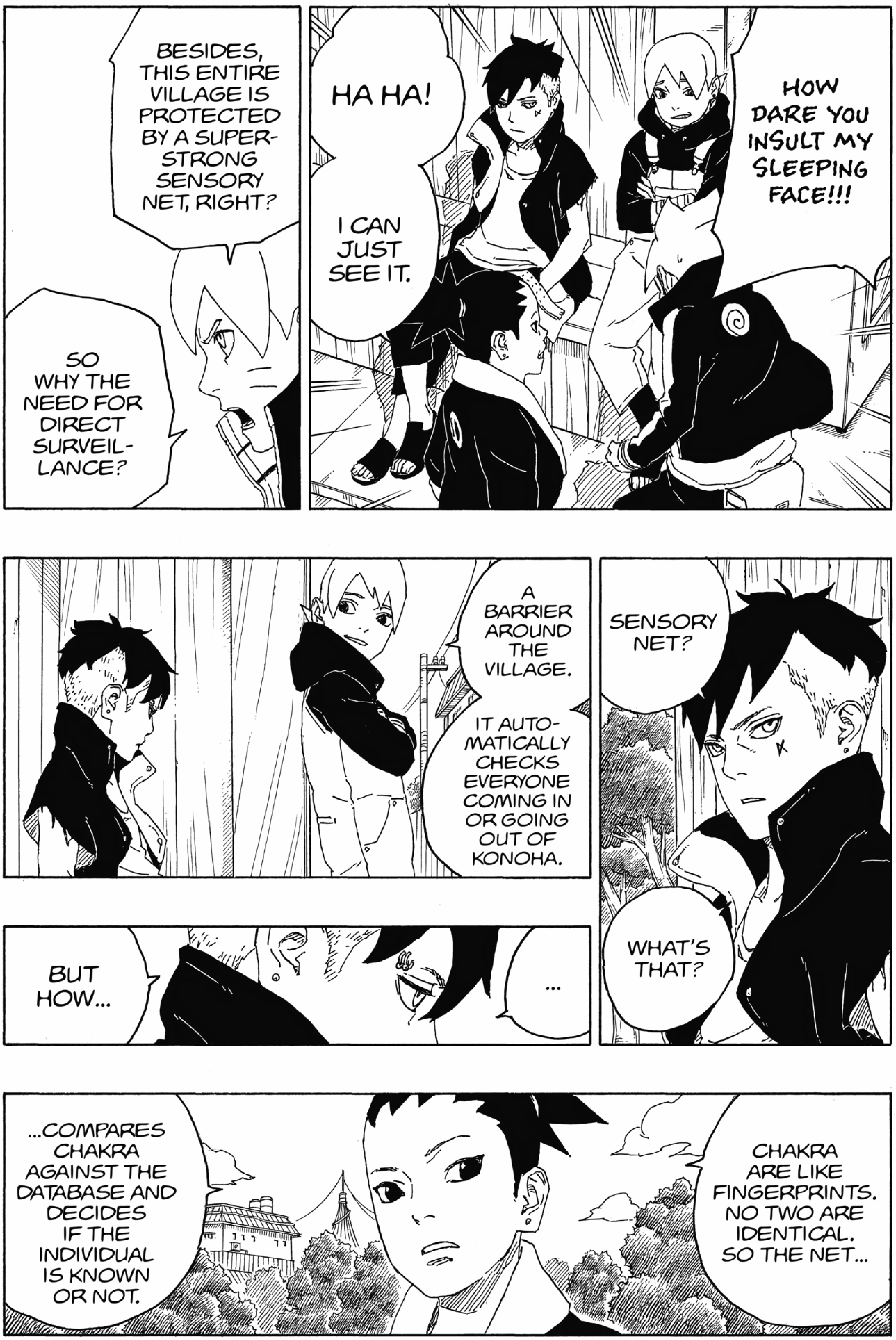


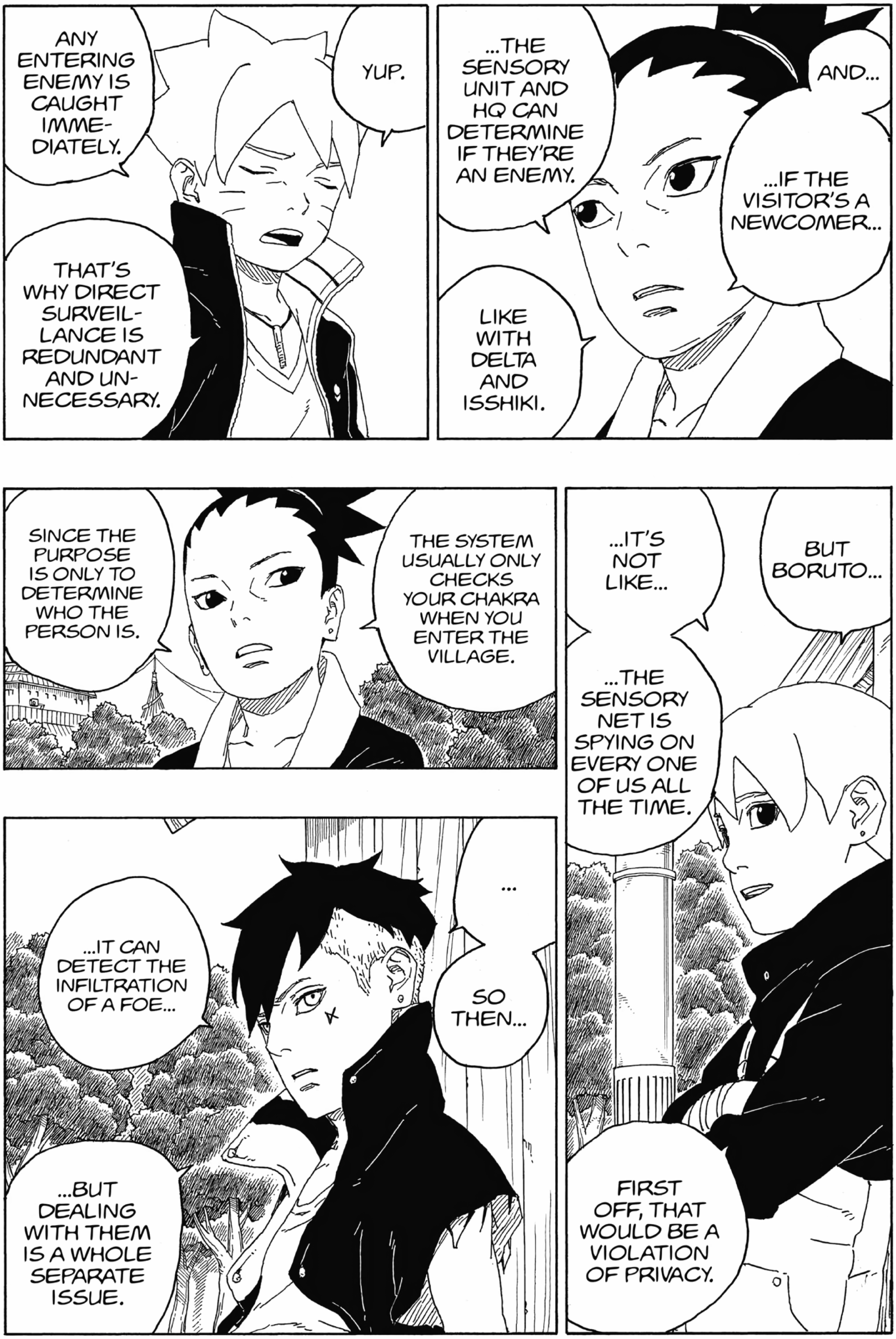
Number 61: Madness

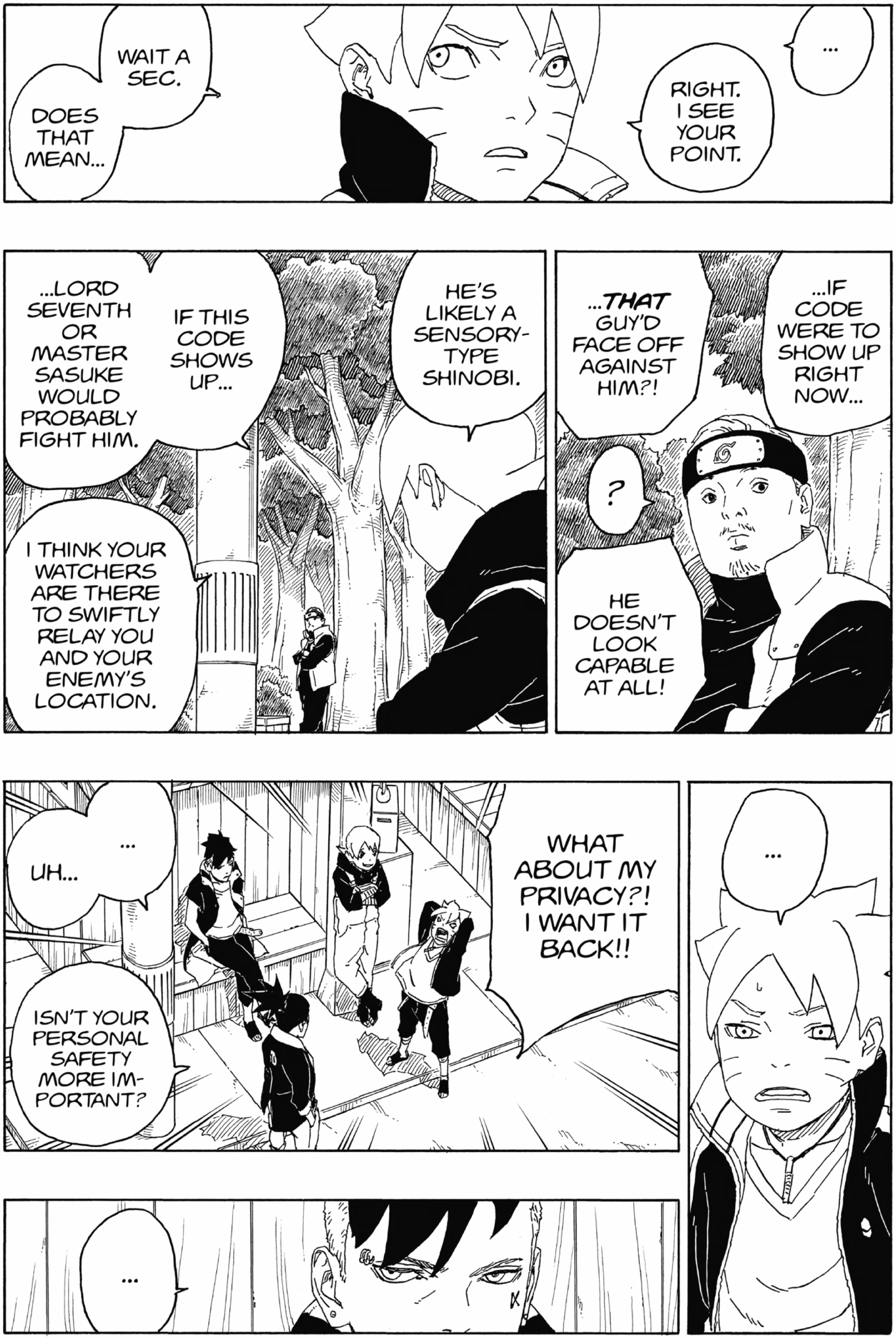
BORUTO
-NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS-

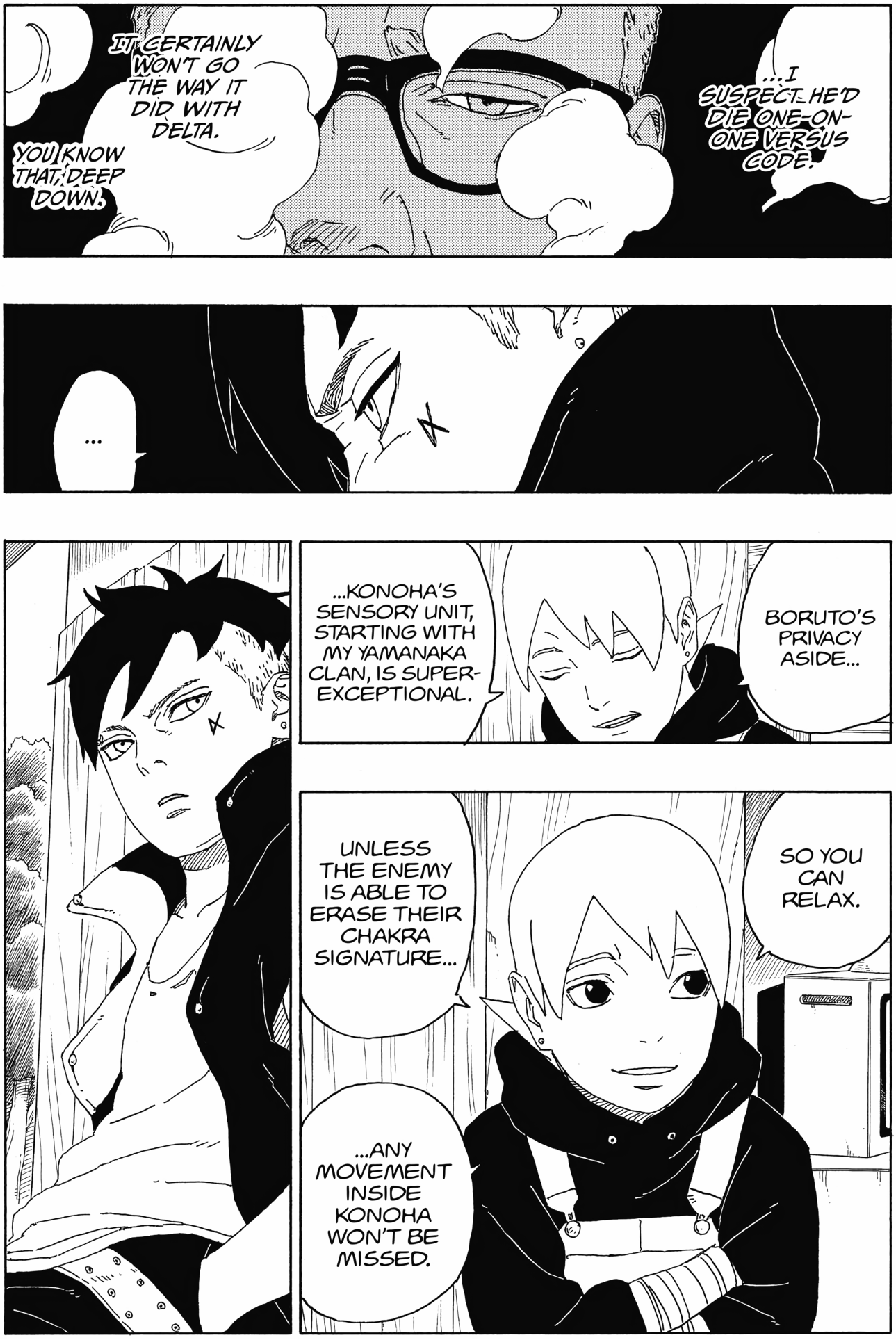

ALL RIGHT, HERE GOES...
PLEASE GIVE ME OLD MAN SASUKE!
FWUP
YAH!!
C
ABURAME
AND... KABOOM.
DAMMIT!!
Y'KNOW...
THEY MAY JUST BE PLAYING CARDS, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T CURSE OUT YOUR MENTOR, HMM?
I'M CUSSING MY CRAPPIER-THAN-CRAP LUCK, OKAY?!
DAMMIT!!
...

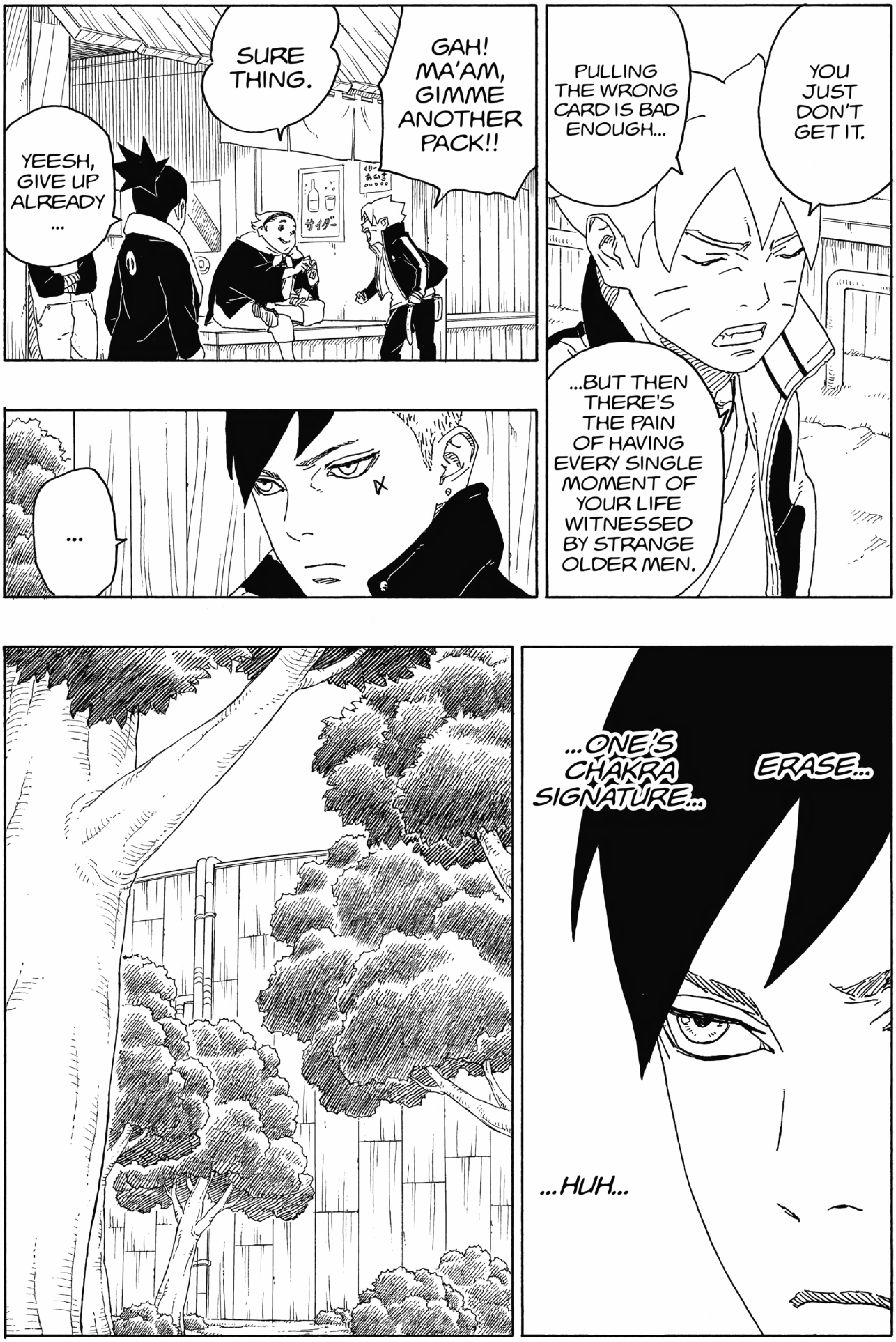

...
AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK.
GAH.
HE'S NOT EVEN BOTHERING TO HIDE...
GO EASY ON THEM.
I KNOW THAT, BUT...
...BEING WATCHED 24-7 LIKE THIS...
...IS STARTING TO STRESS ME OUT.
WE HAVE NO CLUE WHEN OR WHERE THE ENEMY WILL ATTACK.
IT'S THANKS TO THEM WATCHING US THAT YOU CAN BE CAREFREE AND GO DOWN IN FLAMES IN X CARDS.
YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING LIKE A BABY EVERY NIGHT, WITH AN IDIOTIC LOOK ON YOUR FACE.
YEAH, RIGHT.

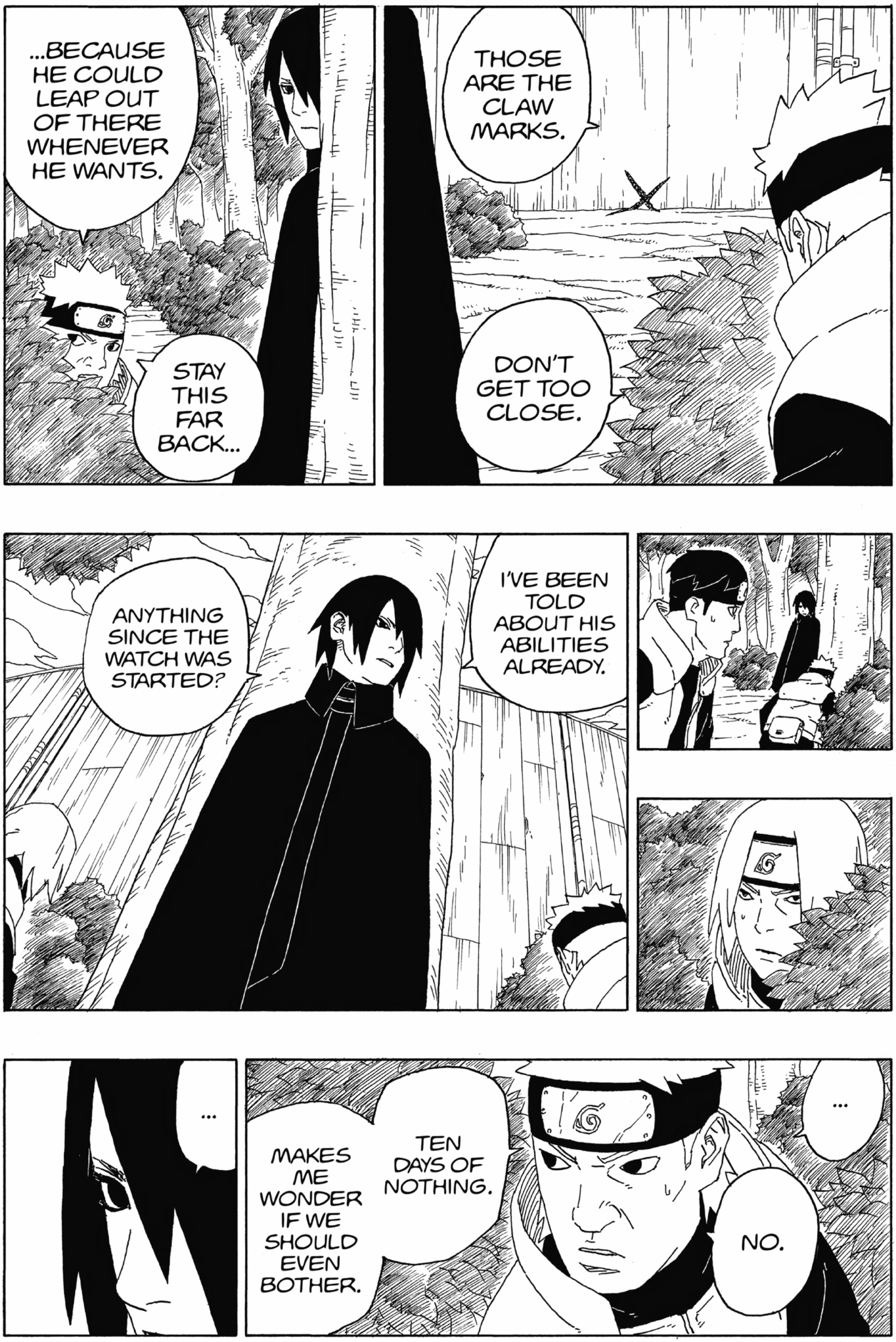

HOW DARE YOU INSULT MY SLEEPING FACE!!!
HA HA!
I CAN JUST SEE IT.
BESIDES, THIS ENTIRE VILLAGE IS PROTECTED BY A SUPER-STRONG SENSORY NET, RIGHT?
SO WHY THE NEED FOR DIRECT SURVEILLANCE?
SENSORY NET?
WHAT'S THAT?
A BARRIER AROUND THE VILLAGE.
IT AUTOMATICALLY CHECKS EVERYONE COMING IN OR GOING OUT OF KONOHA.
...
BUT HOW...
CHAKRA ARE LIKE FINGERPRINTS. NO TWO ARE IDENTICAL. SO THE NET...
...COMPARES CHAKRA AGAINST THE DATABASE AND DECIDES IF THE INDIVIDUAL IS KNOWN OR NOT.

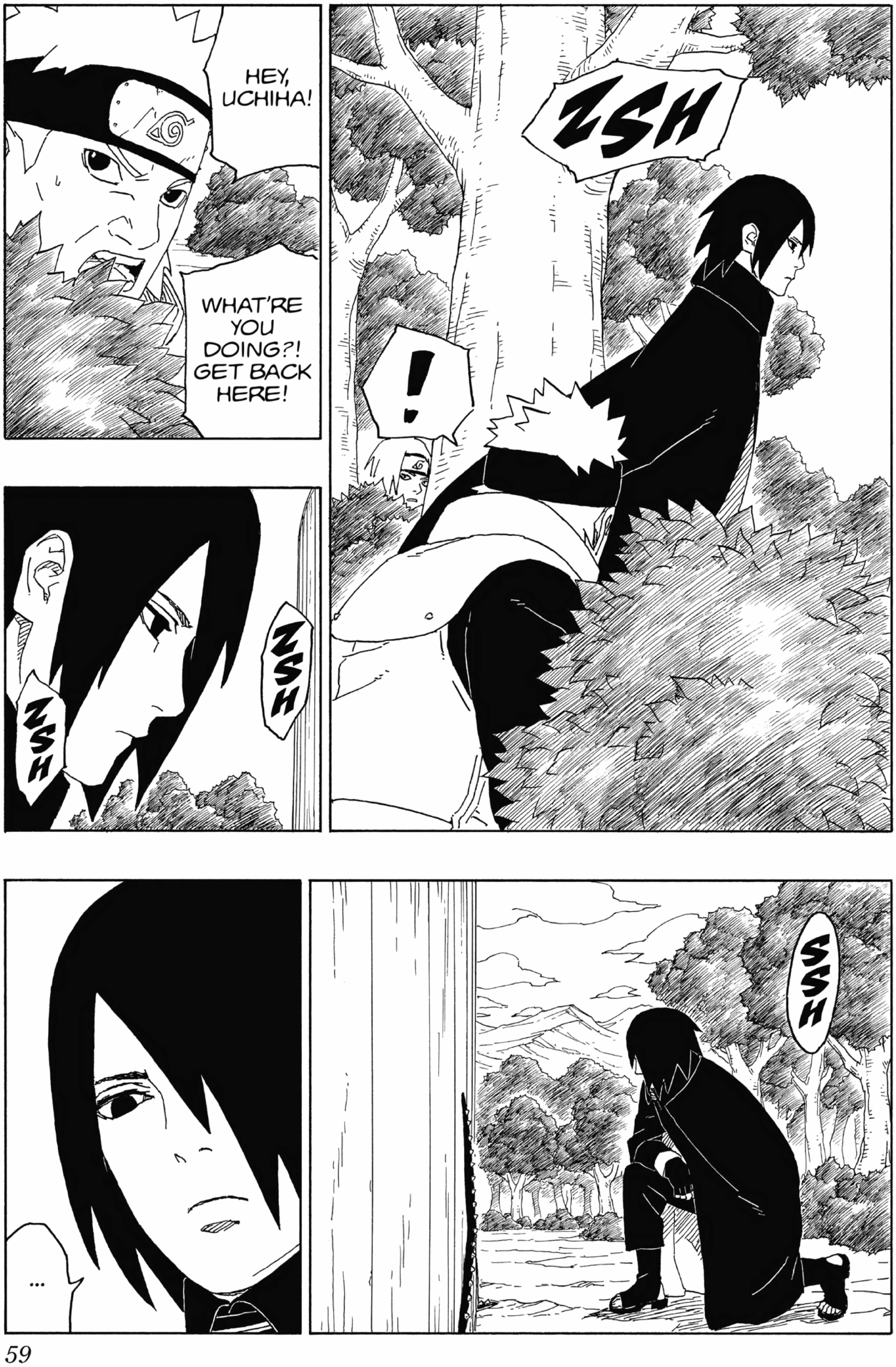

AND...
...IF THE VISITOR'S A NEWCOMER...
...THE SENSORY UNIT AND HQ CAN DETERMINE IF THEY'RE AN ENEMY.
LIKE WITH DELTA AND ISSHIKI.
YUP.
ANY ENTERING ENEMY IS CAUGHT IMMEDIATELY.
THAT'S WHY DIRECT SURVEILLANCE IS REDUNDANT AND UNNECESSARY.
BUT BORUTO...
...IT'S NOT LIKE...
...THE SENSORY NET IS SPYING ON EVERY ONE OF US ALL THE TIME.
FIRST OFF, THAT WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF PRIVACY.
THE SYSTEM USUALLY ONLY CHECKS YOUR CHAKRA WHEN YOU ENTER THE VILLAGE.
SINCE THE PURPOSE IS ONLY TO DETERMINE WHO THE PERSON IS.
...
SO THEN...
...IT CAN DETECT THE INFILTRATION OF A FOE...
...BUT DEALING WITH THEM IS A WHOLE SEPARATE ISSUE.

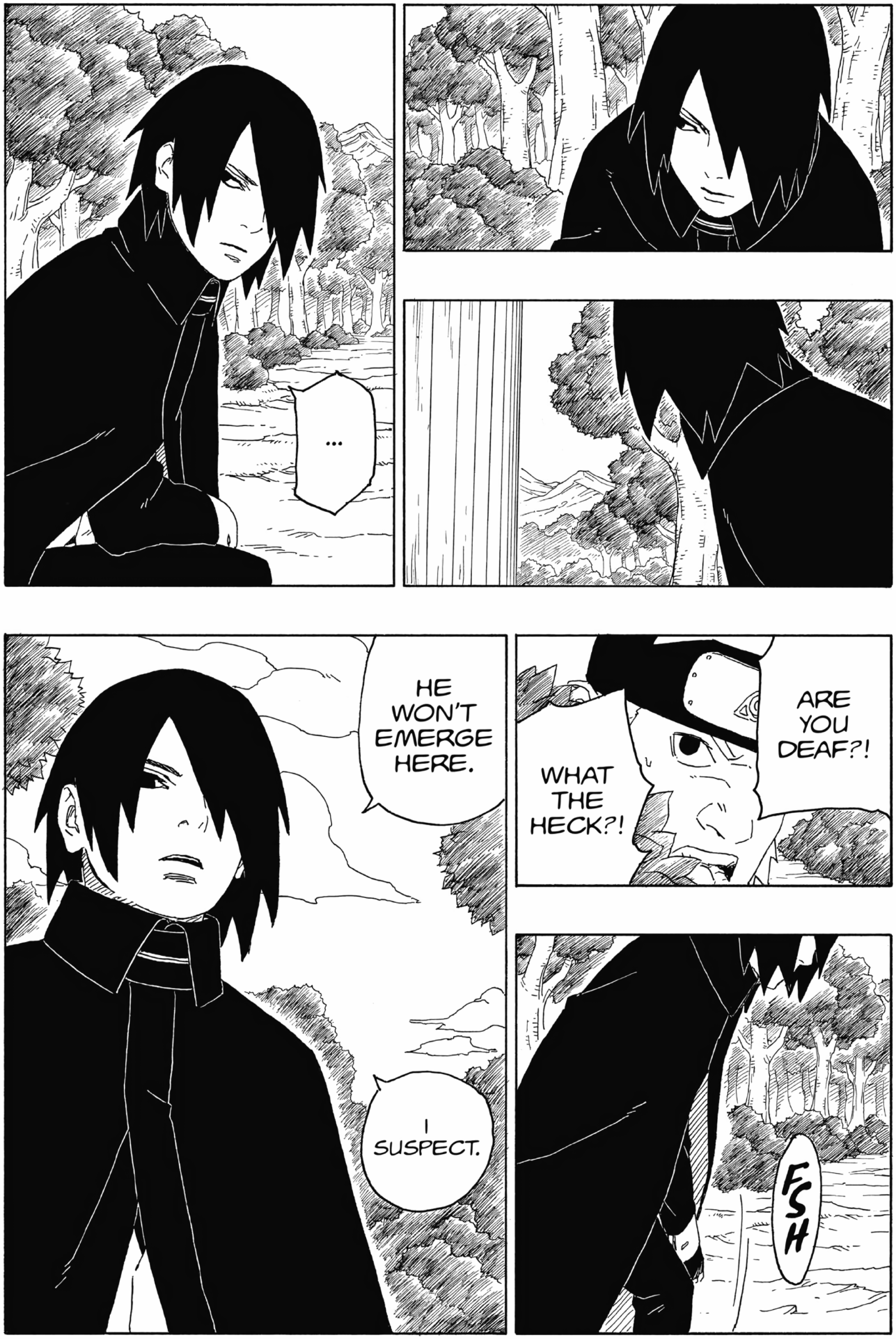

...
RIGHT. I SEE YOUR POINT.
WAIT A SEC.
DOES THAT MEAN...
...IF CODE WERE TO SHOW UP RIGHT NOW...
...**THAT** GUY'D FACE OFF AGAINST HIM?!
?
HE DOESN'T LOOK CAPABLE AT ALL!
HE'S LIKELY A SENSORY-TYPE SHINOBI.
IF THIS CODE SHOWS UP...
...LORD SEVENTH OR MASTER SASUKE WOULD PROBABLY FIGHT HIM.
I THINK YOUR WATCHERS ARE THERE TO SWIFTLY RELAY YOU AND YOUR ENEMY'S LOCATION.
...
WHAT ABOUT MY PRIVACY?! I WANT IT BACK!!
...
UH...
ISN'T YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY MORE IMPORTANT?
...

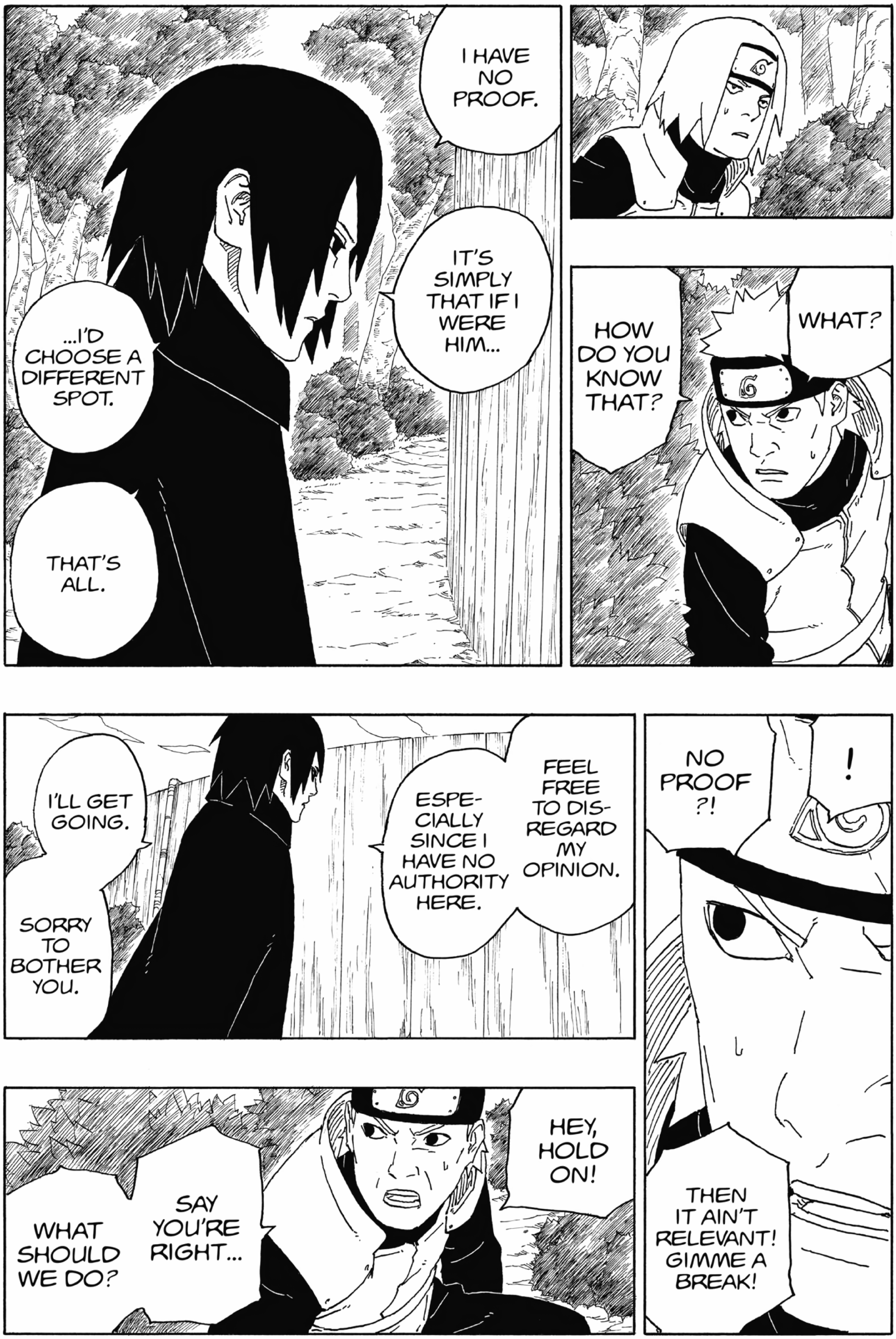

...I SUSPECT HE'D DIE ONE-ON-ONE VERSUS CODE.
IT CERTAINLY WON'T GO THE WAY IT DID WITH DELTA.
YOU KNOW THAT, DEEP DOWN.
...
BORUTO'S PRIVACY ASIDE...
...KONOHA'S SENSORY UNIT, STARTING WITH MY YAMANAKA CLAN, IS SUPER-EXCEPTIONAL.
UNLESS THE ENEMY IS ABLE TO ERASE THEIR CHAKRA SIGNATURE...
...ANY MOVEMENT INSIDE KONOHA WON'T BE MISSED.
SO YOU CAN RELAX.

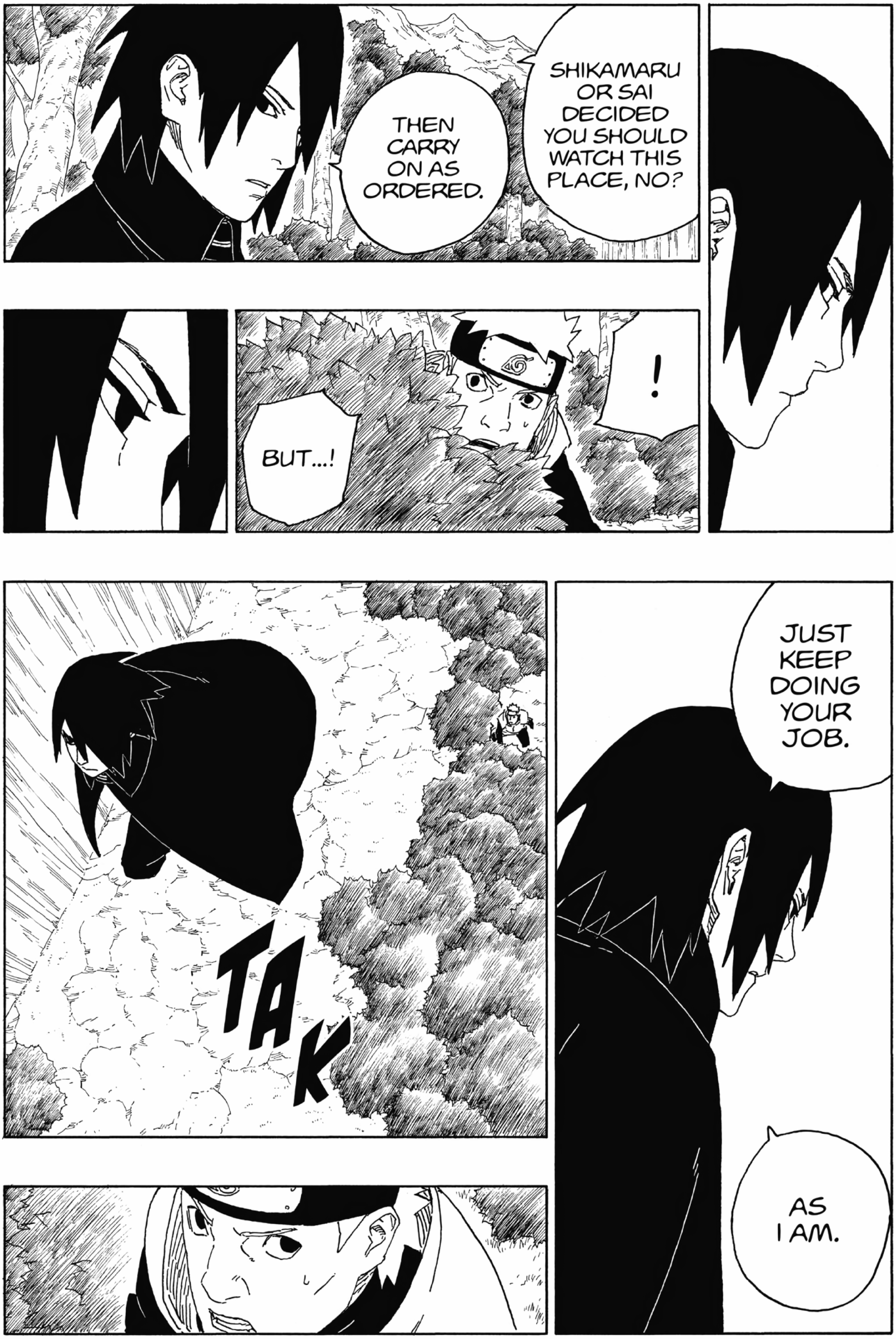

GAH! MA'AM, GIMME ANOTHER PACK!!
SURE THING.
YEESH, GIVE UP ALREADY ...
サイダー
YOU JUST DON'T GET IT.
PULLING THE WRONG CARD IS BAD ENOUGH...
...BUT THEN THERE'S THE PAIN OF HAVING EVERY SINGLE MOMENT OF YOUR LIFE WITNESSED BY STRANGE OLDER MEN.
...
ERASE...
...ONE'S CHAKRA SIGNATURE...
...HUH...

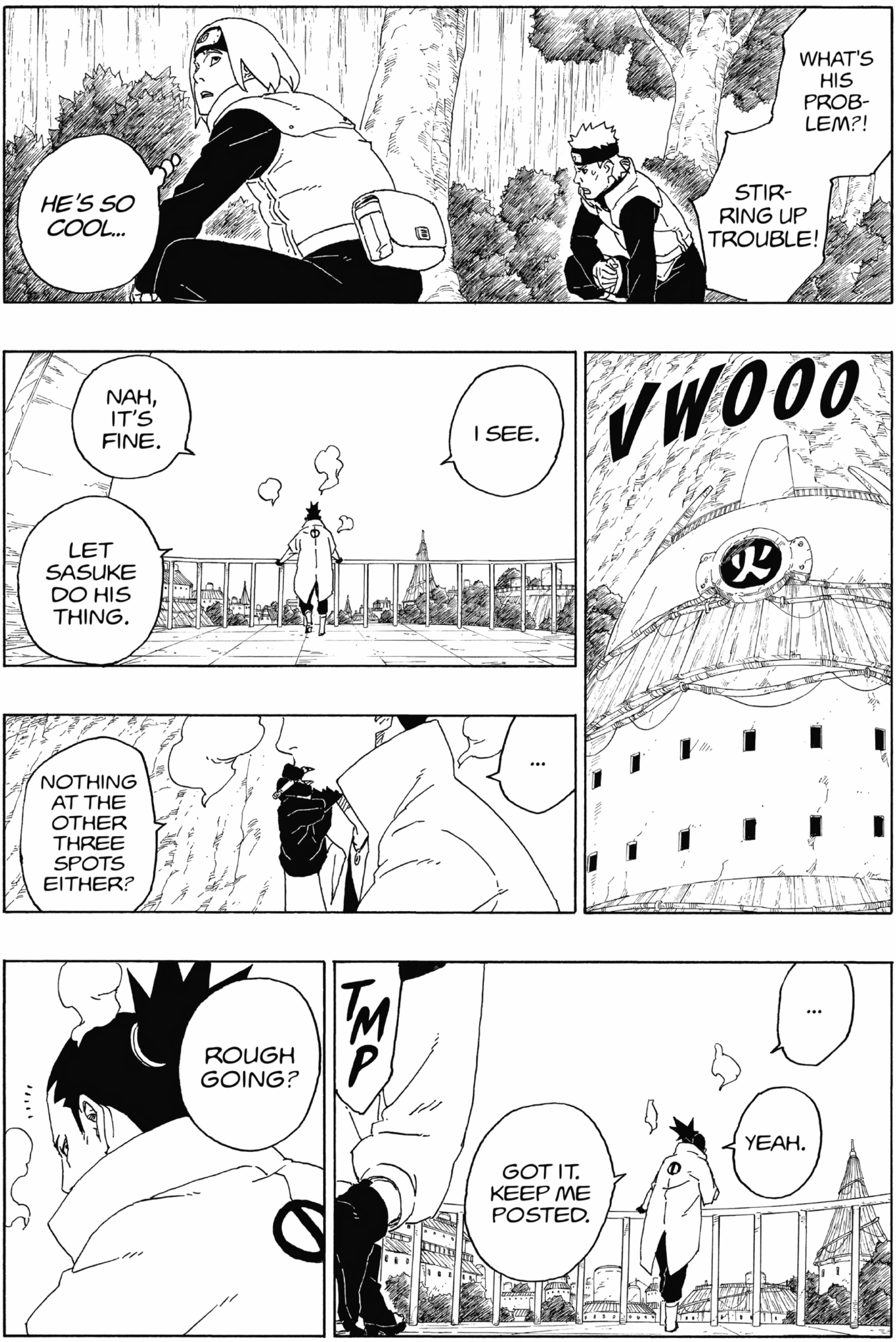

THOSE ARE THE CLAW MARKS.
DON'T GET TOO CLOSE.
STAY THIS FAR BACK...
...BECAUSE HE COULD LEAP OUT OF THERE WHENEVER HE WANTS.
I'VE BEEN TOLD ABOUT HIS ABILITIES ALREADY.
ANYTHING SINCE THE WATCH WAS STARTED?
...
NO.
TEN DAYS OF NOTHING.
MAKES ME WONDER IF WE SHOULD EVEN BOTHER.
...

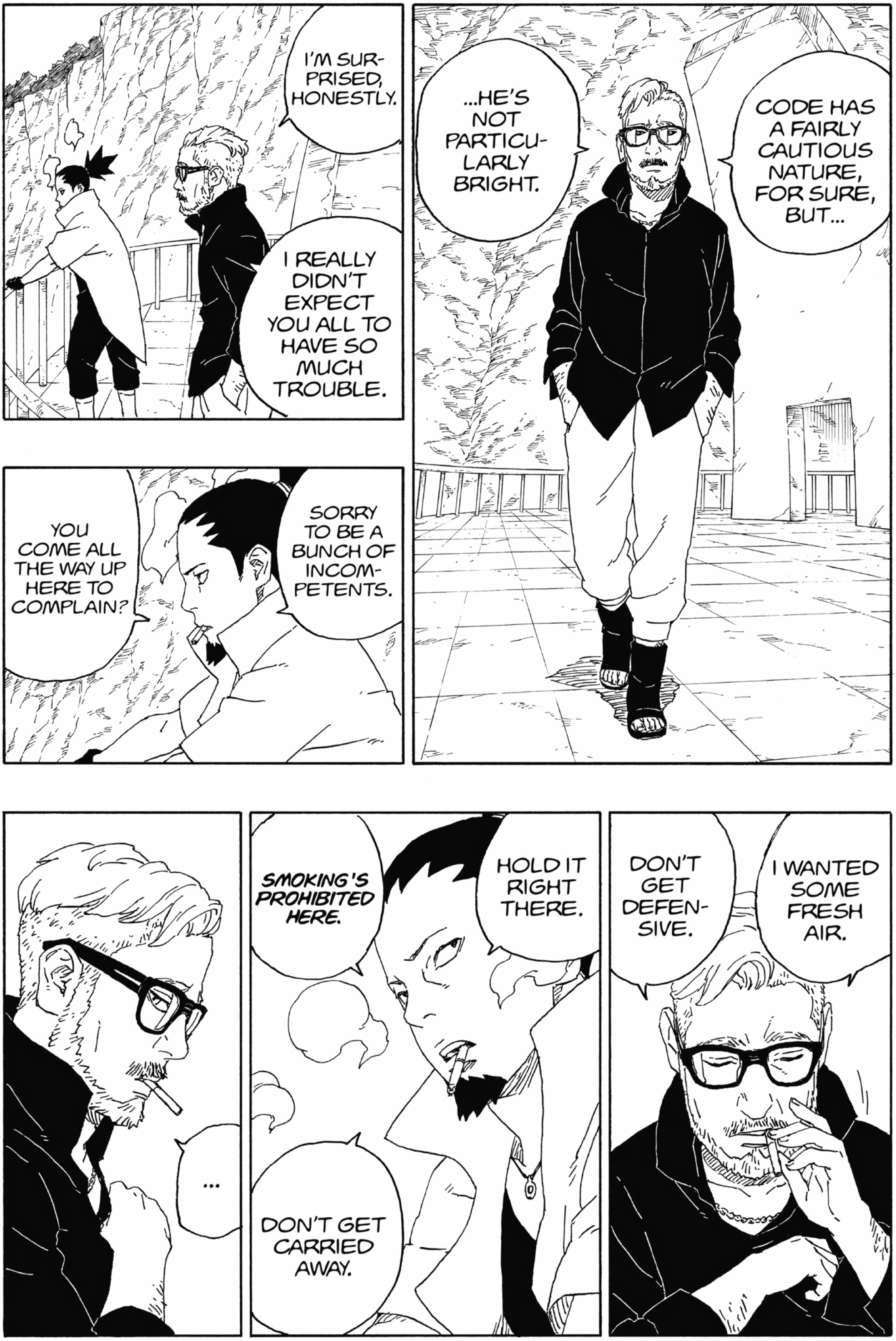

ZSH
!
HEY, UCHIHA!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?! GET BACK HERE!
ZSH
ZSH
SSH
...

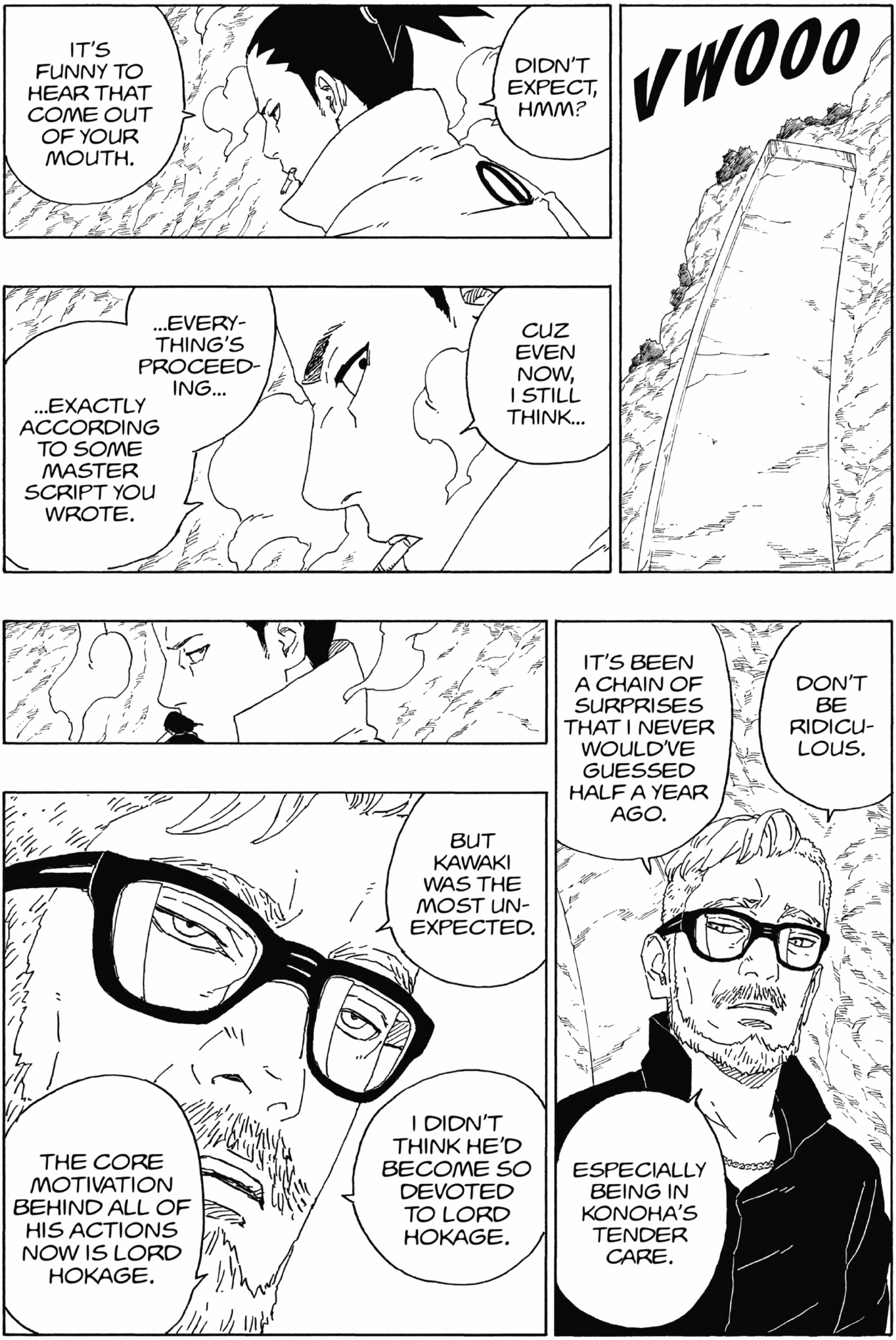

...
HE WON'T EMERGE HERE.
I SUSPECT.
ARE YOU DEAF?!
WHAT THE HECK?!
FSH

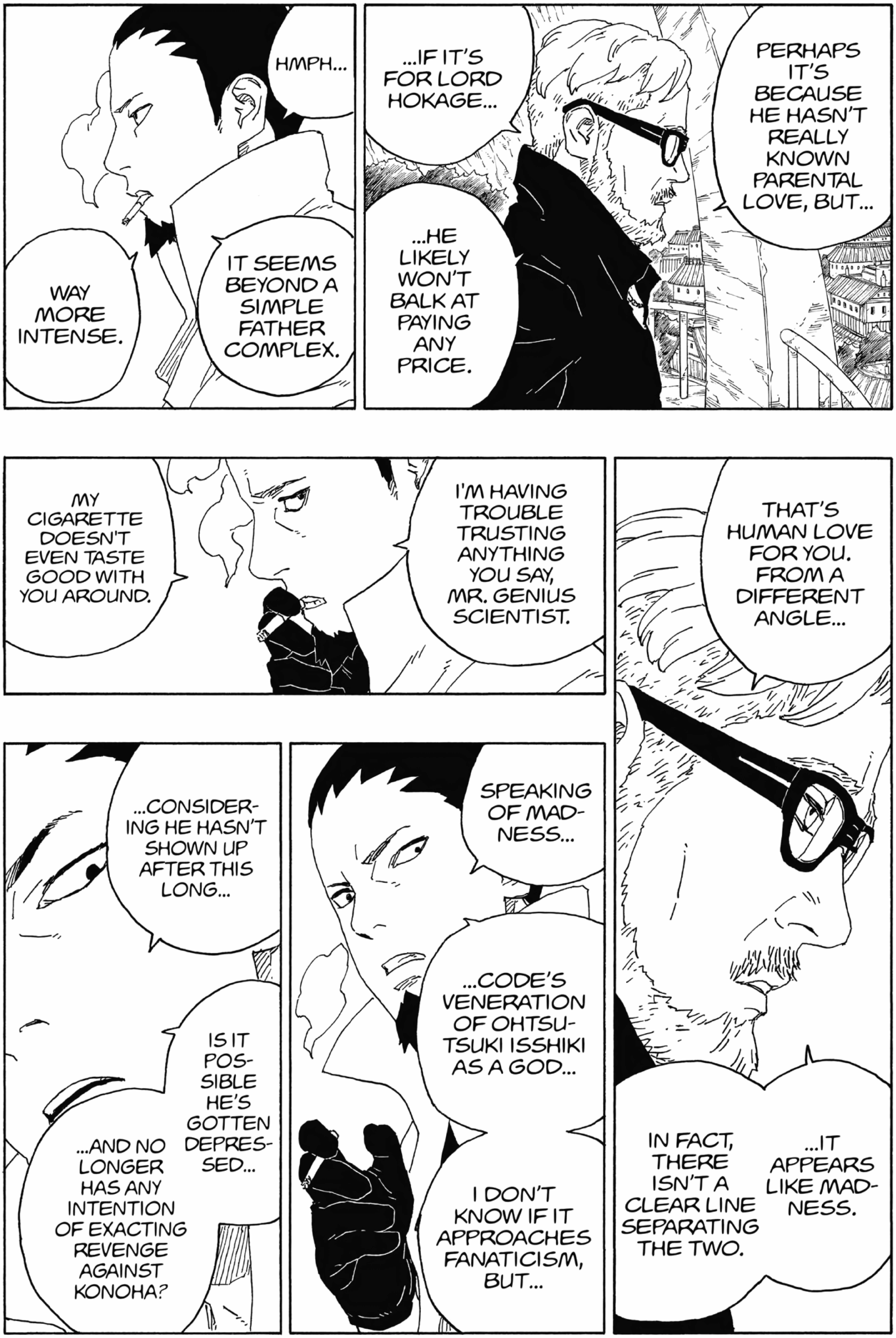

WHAT?
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
I HAVE NO PROOF.
IT'S SIMPLY THAT IF I WERE HIM...
...I'D CHOOSE A DIFFERENT SPOT.
THAT'S ALL.
!
NO PROOF?!
THEN IT AIN'T RELEVANT! GIMME A BREAK!
FEEL FREE TO DISREGARD MY OPINION.
ESPECIALLY SINCE I HAVE NO AUTHORITY HERE.
I'LL GET GOING.
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
HEY, HOLD ON!
SAY YOU'RE RIGHT...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

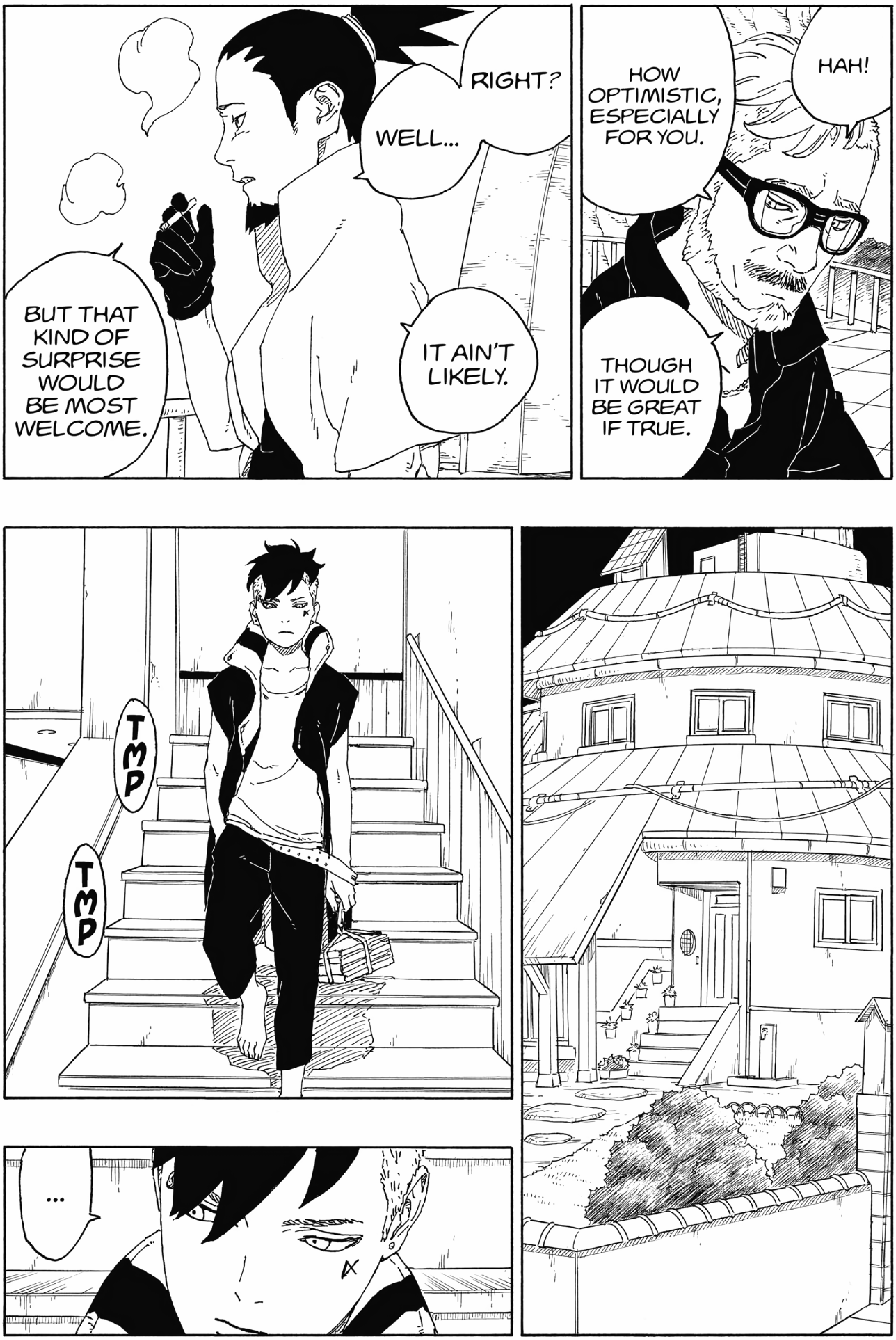

SHIKAMARU OR SAI DECIDED YOU SHOULD WATCH THIS PLACE, NO?
THEN CARRY ON AS ORDERED.
!
BUT...!
JUST KEEP DOING YOUR JOB.
TAK
AS I AM.

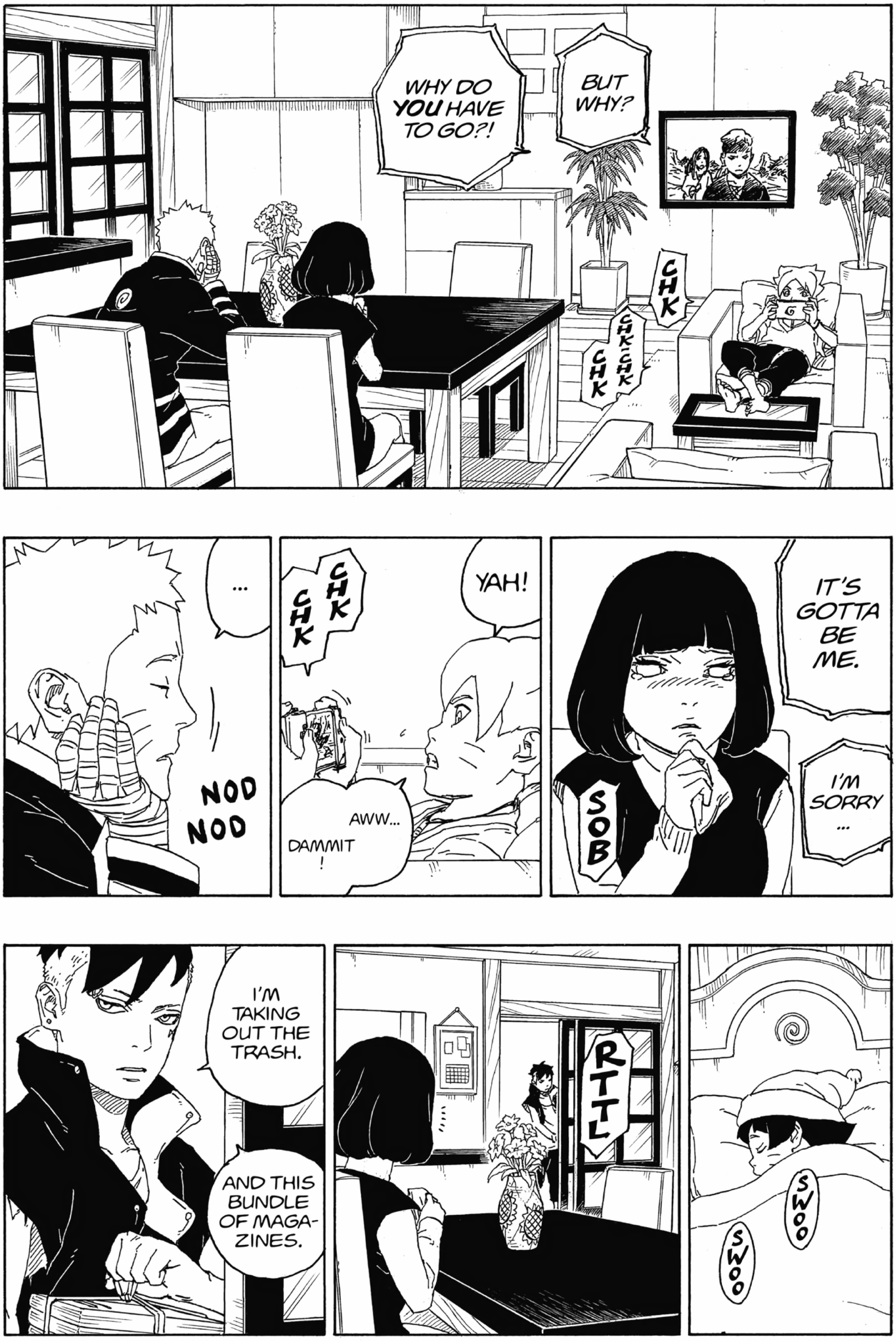

WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?!
STIRRING UP TROUBLE!
HE'S SO COOL...
VWOOO
I SEE.
NAH, IT'S FINE.
LET SASUKE DO HIS THING.
...
NOTHING AT THE OTHER THREE SPOTS EITHER?
...
YEAH.
GOT IT. KEEP ME POSTED.
TMP
ROUGH GOING?

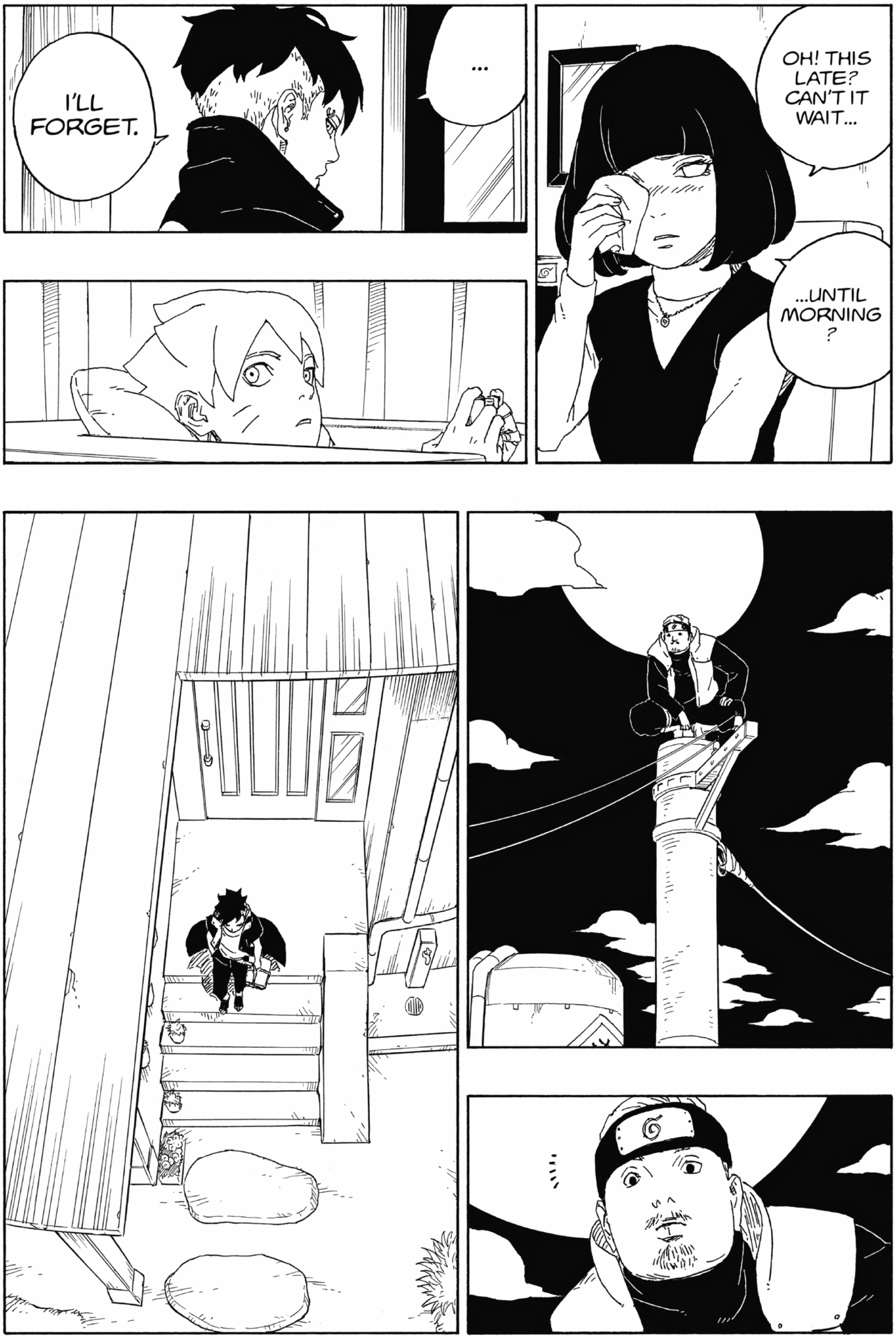

CODE HAS A FAIRLY CAUTIOUS NATURE, FOR SURE, BUT...
...HE'S NOT PARTICULARLY BRIGHT.
I'M SURPRISED, HONESTLY.
I REALLY DIDN'T EXPECT YOU ALL TO HAVE SO MUCH TROUBLE.
SORRY TO BE A BUNCH OF INCOMPETENTS.
YOU COME ALL THE WAY UP HERE TO COMPLAIN?
I WANTED SOME FRESH AIR.
DON'T GET DEFENSIVE.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE.
SMOKING'S PROHIBITED HERE.
DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY.
...

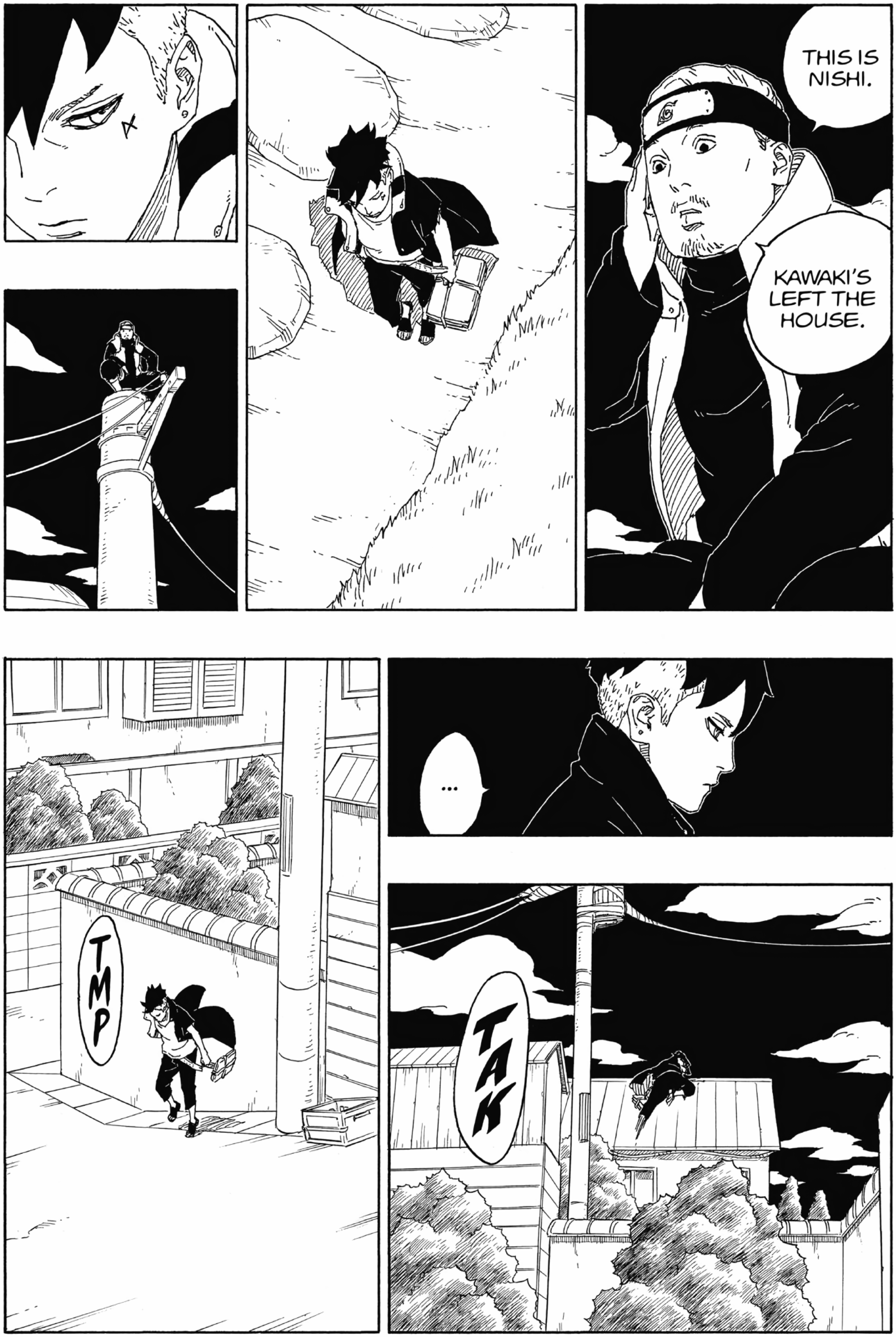

VWOOO
DIDN'T EXPECT, HMM?
IT'S FUNNY TO HEAR THAT COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTH.
CUZ EVEN NOW, I STILL THINK...
...EVERYTHING'S PROCEEDING...
...EXACTLY ACCORDING TO SOME MASTER SCRIPT YOU WROTE.
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.
IT'S BEEN A CHAIN OF SURPRISES THAT I NEVER WOULD'VE GUESSED HALF A YEAR AGO.
ESPECIALLY BEING IN KONOHA'S TENDER CARE.
BUT KAWAKI WAS THE MOST UNEXPECTED.
I DIDN'T THINK HE'D BECOME SO DEVOTED TO LORD HOKAGE.
THE CORE MOTIVATION BEHIND ALL OF HIS ACTIONS NOW IS LORD HOKAGE.

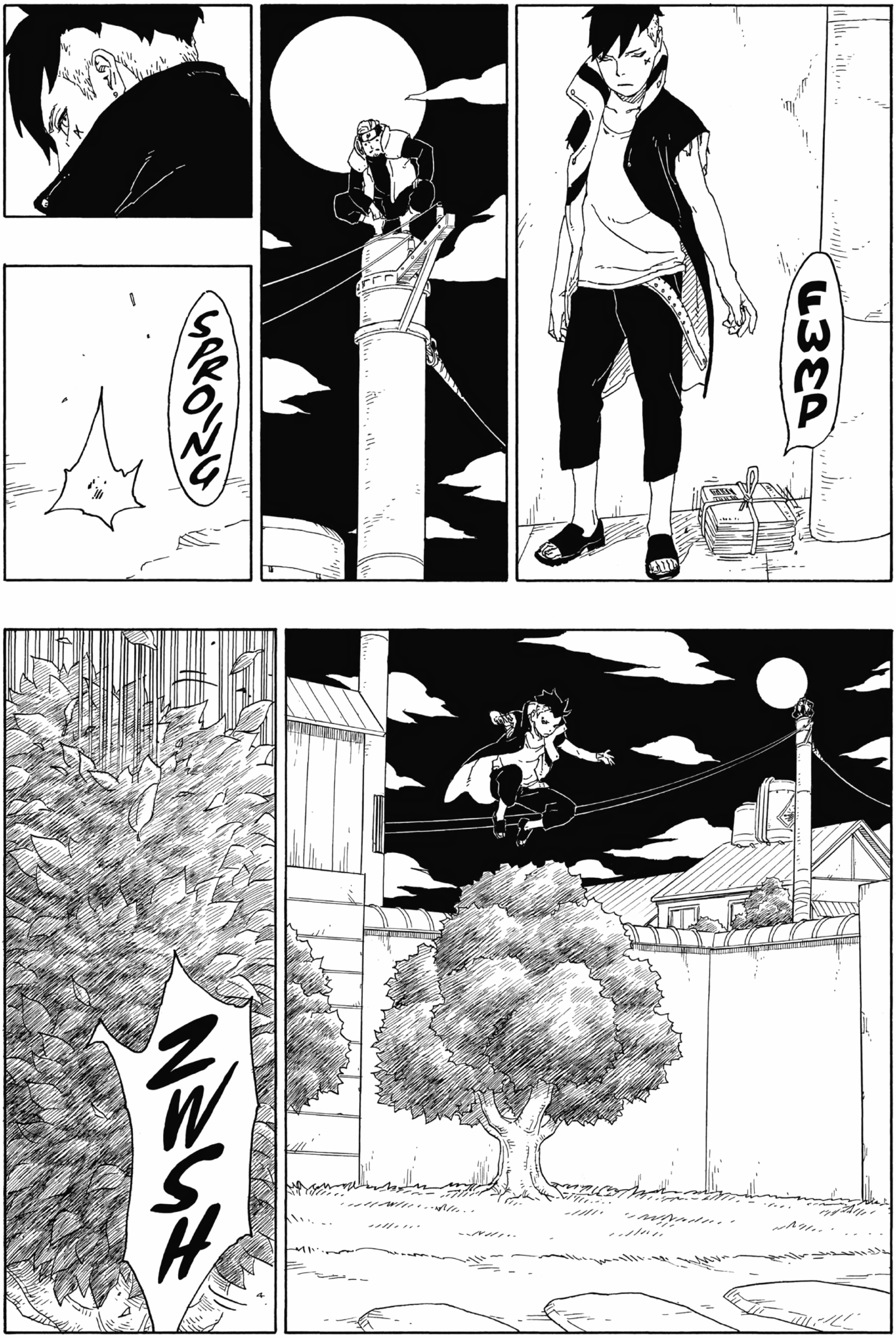

PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE HE HASN'T REALLY KNOWN PARENTAL LOVE, BUT...
...IF IT'S FOR LORD HOKAGE...
...HE LIKELY WON'T BALK AT PAYING ANY PRICE.
HMPH...
IT SEEMS BEYOND A SIMPLE FATHER COMPLEX.
WAY MORE INTENSE.
THAT'S HUMAN LOVE FOR YOU. FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE...
...IT APPEARS LIKE MADNESS.
IN FACT, THERE ISN'T A CLEAR LINE SEPARATING THE TWO.
I'M HAVING TROUBLE TRUSTING ANYTHING YOU SAY, MR. GENIUS SCIENTIST.
MY CIGARETTE DOESN'T EVEN TASTE GOOD WITH YOU AROUND.
SPEAKING OF MADNESS...
...CODE'S VENERATION OF OHTSUTSUKI ISSHIKI AS A GOD...
I DON'T KNOW IF IT APPROACHES FANATICISM, BUT...
...CONSIDERING HE HASN'T SHOWN UP AFTER THIS LONG...
IS IT POSSIBLE HE'S GOTTEN DEPRESSED...
...AND NO LONGER HAS ANY INTENTION OF EXACTING REVENGE AGAINST KONOHA?

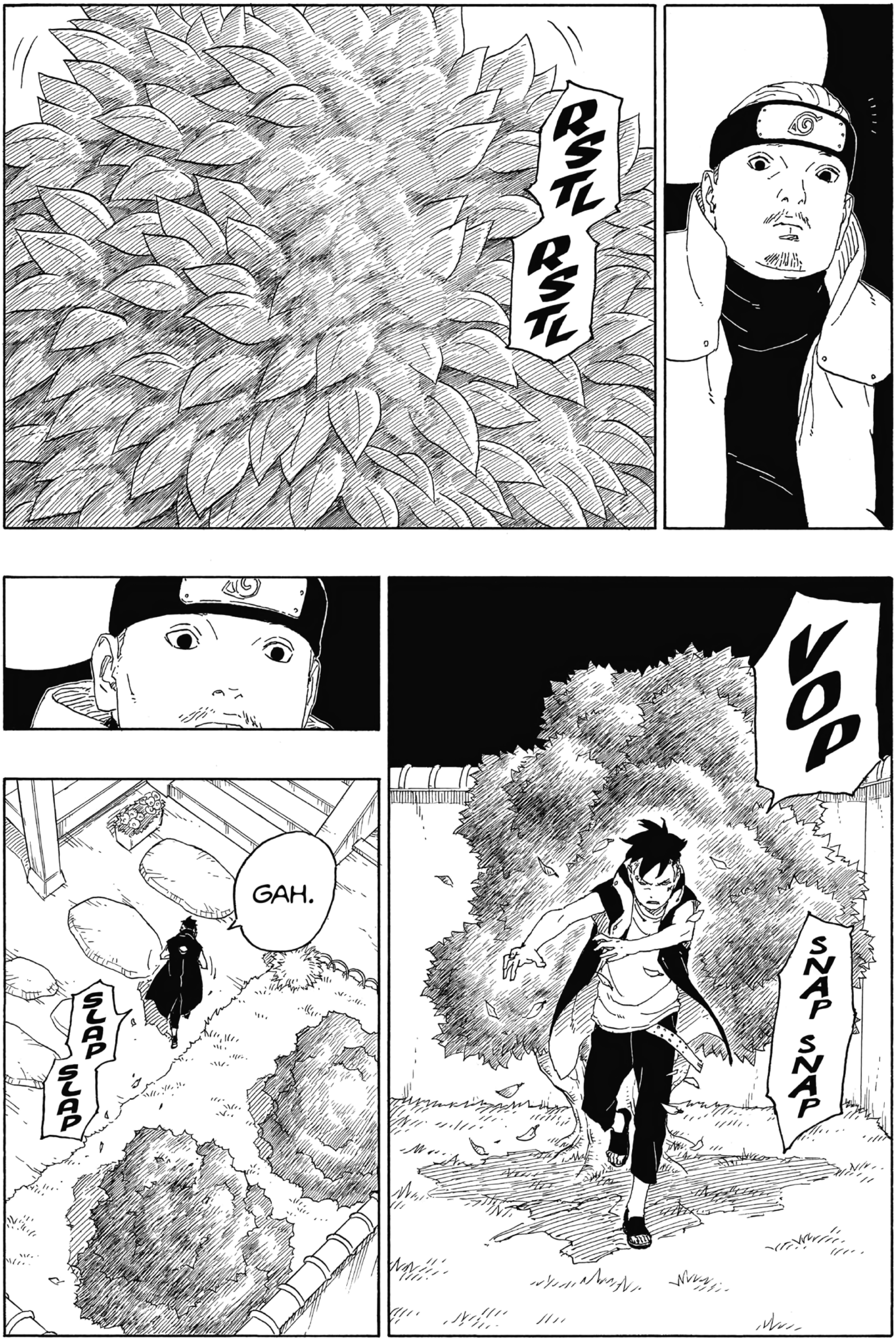

HAH!
HOW OPTIMISTIC, ESPECIALLY FOR YOU.
THOUGH IT WOULD BE GREAT IF TRUE.
RIGHT?
WELL...
IT AIN'T LIKELY.
BUT THAT KIND OF SURPRISE WOULD BE MOST WELCOME.
TMP
TMP
...

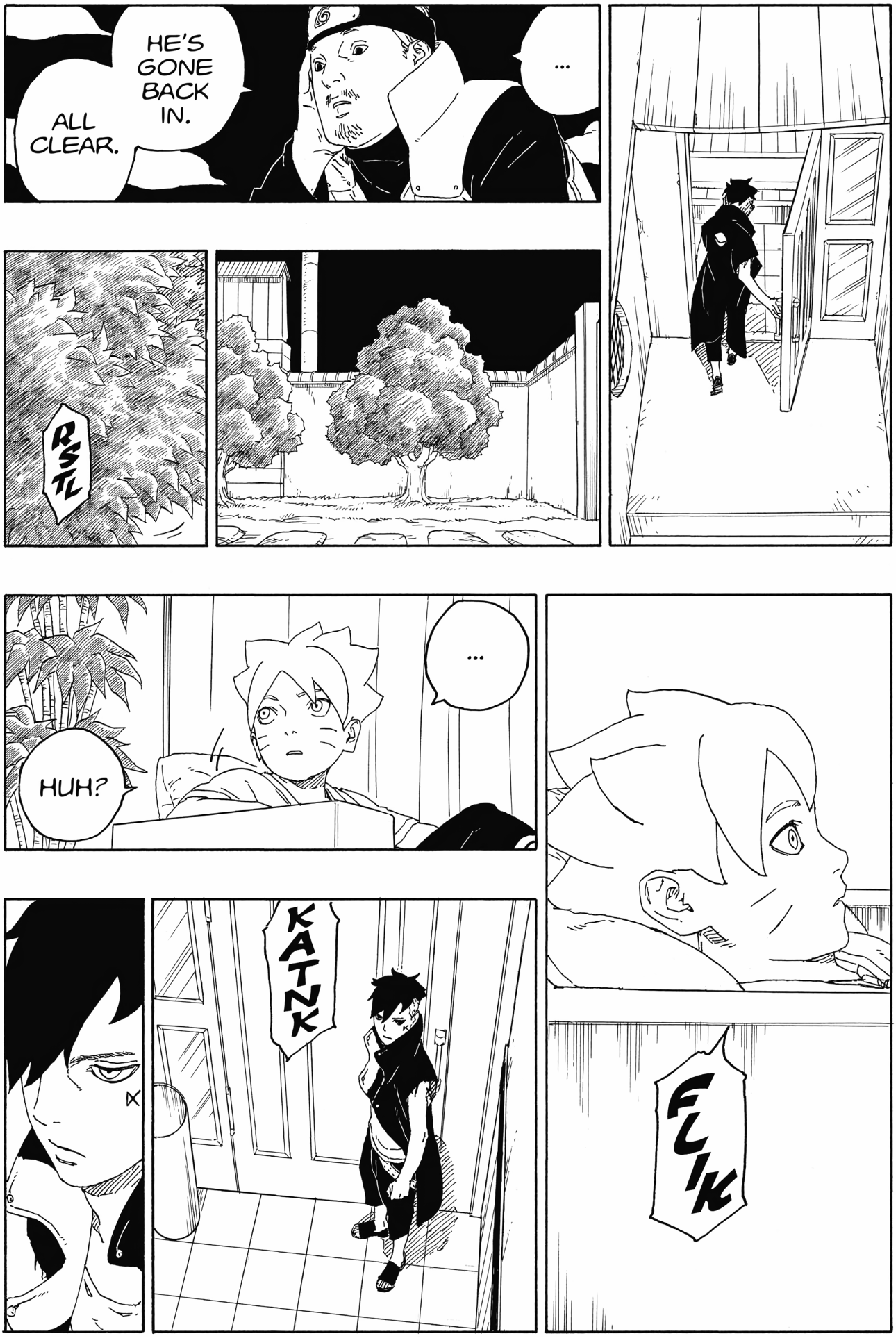

BUT WHY?
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO GO?!
CHK
CHK-CHK
CHK
IT'S GOTTA BE ME.
I'M SORRY...
SOB
YAH!
CHK CHK
AWW... DAMMIT!
...
NOD NOD
SWOO
SWOO
RTTL
....
I'M TAKING OUT THE TRASH.
AND THIS BUNDLE OF MAGAZINES.

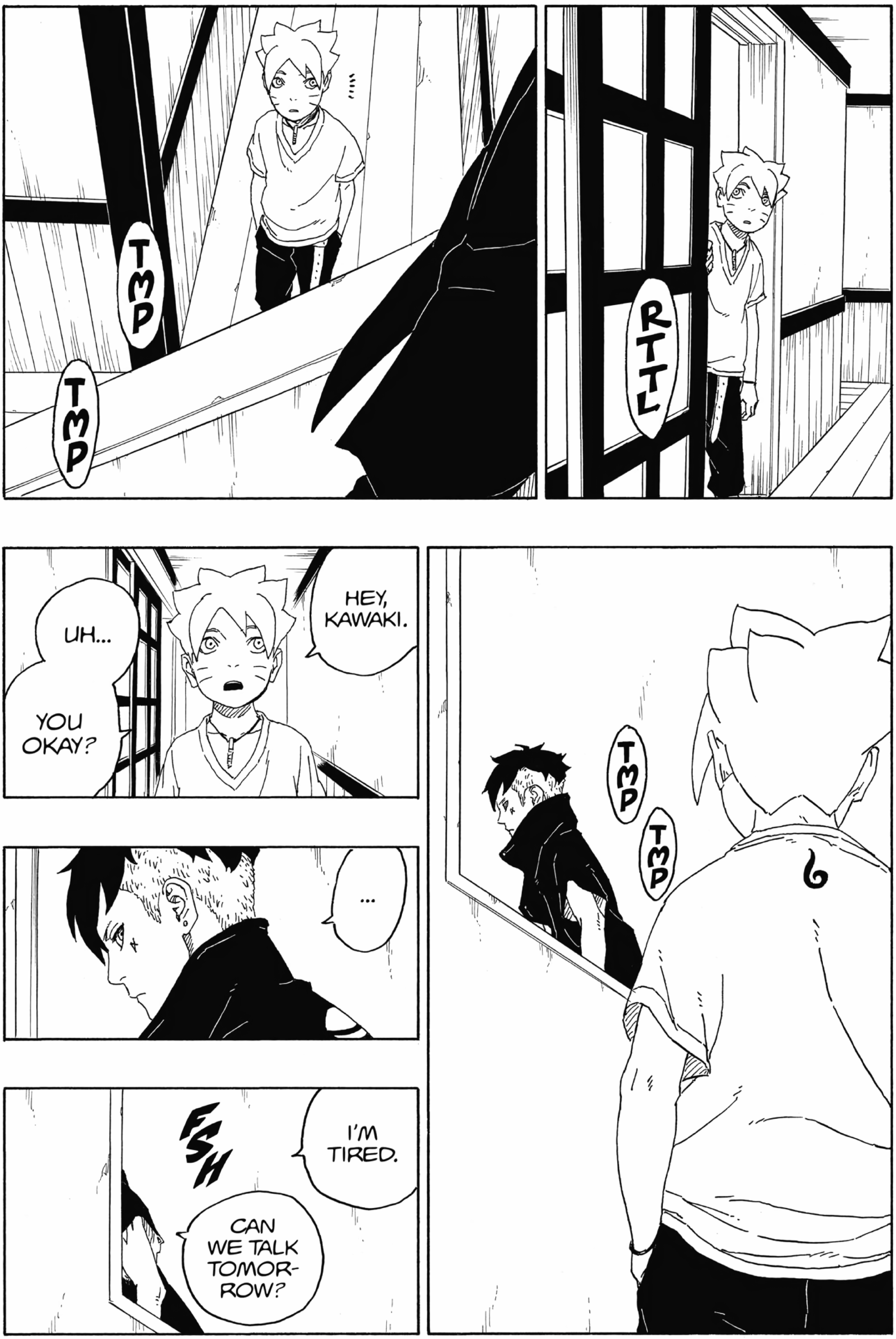

OH! THIS LATE? CAN'T IT WAIT...
...UNTIL MORNING?
...
I'LL FORGET.

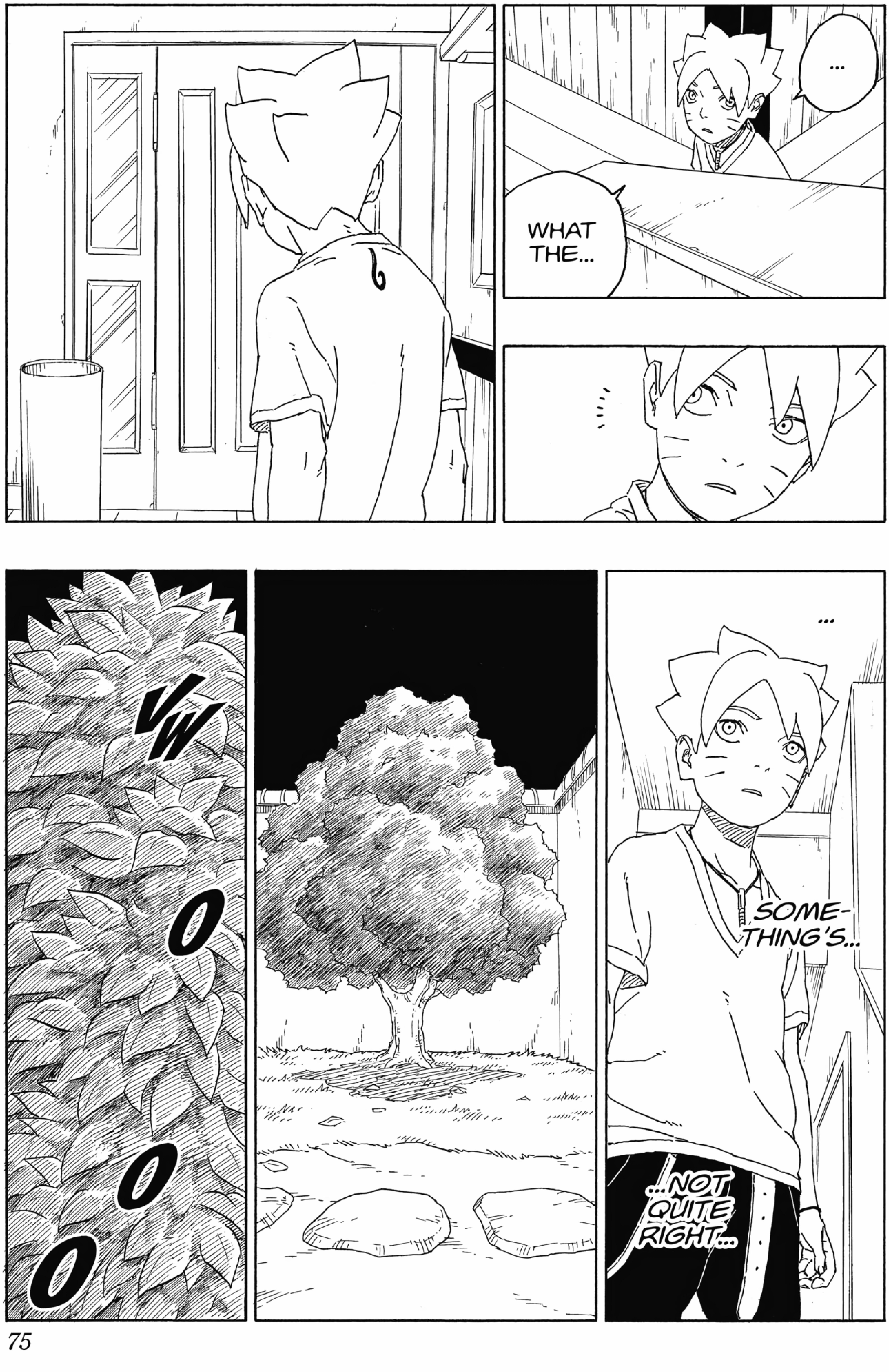

THIS IS NISHI.
KAWAKI'S LEFT THE HOUSE.
...
TMP
TAK

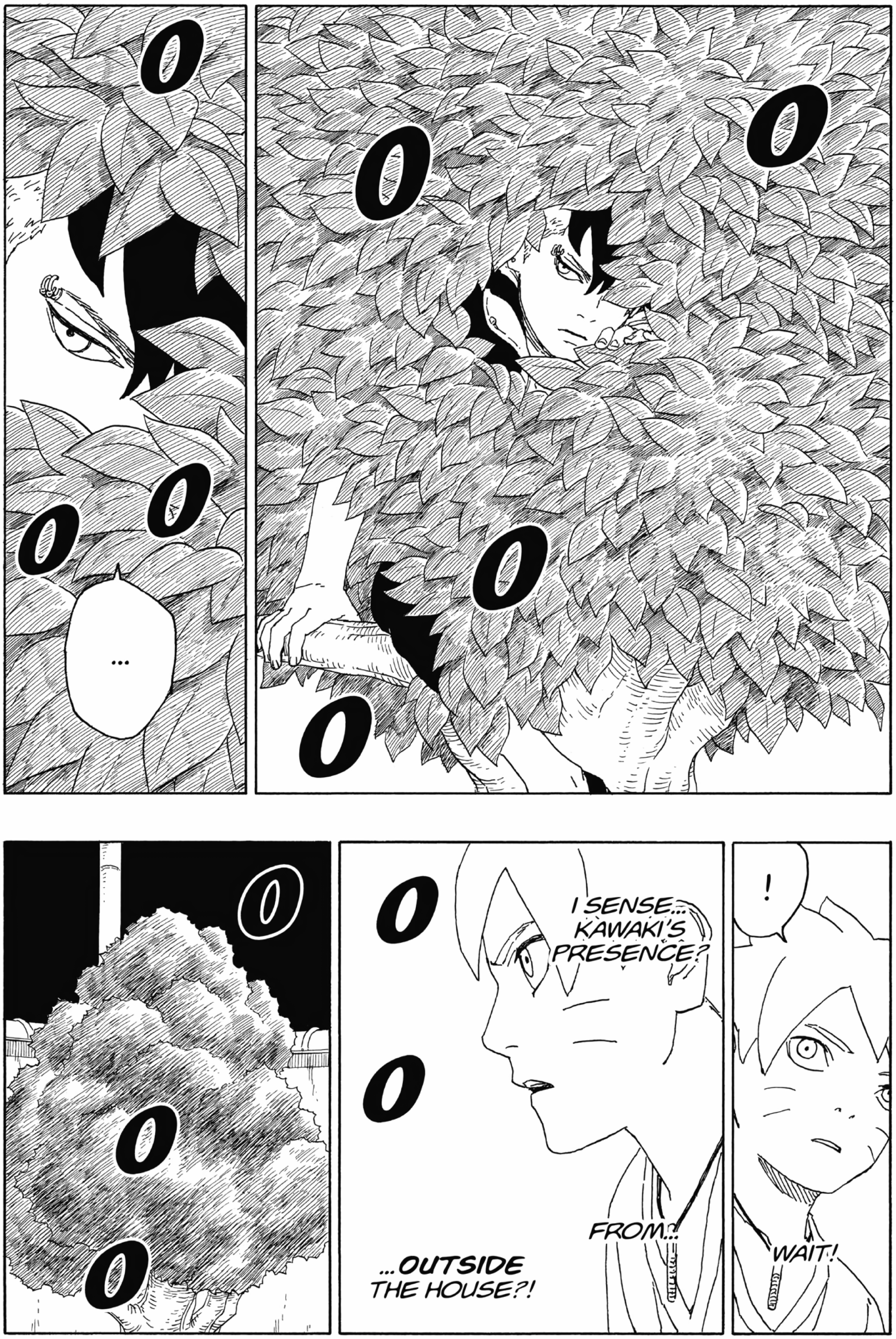

FWMP
SPROING
ZWSH

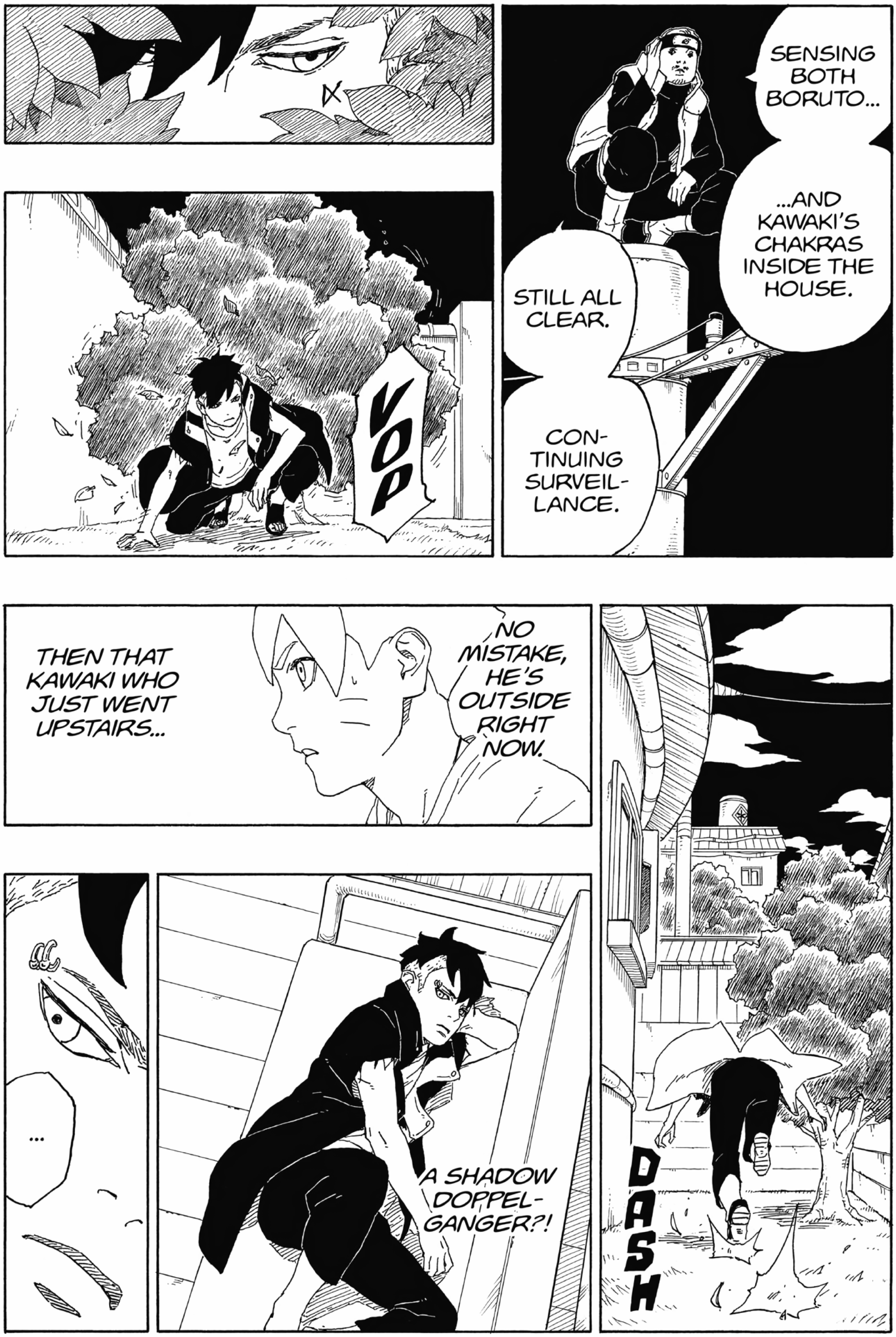

RSTL RSTL
VOP
SNAP SNAP
GAH.
SLAP SLAP

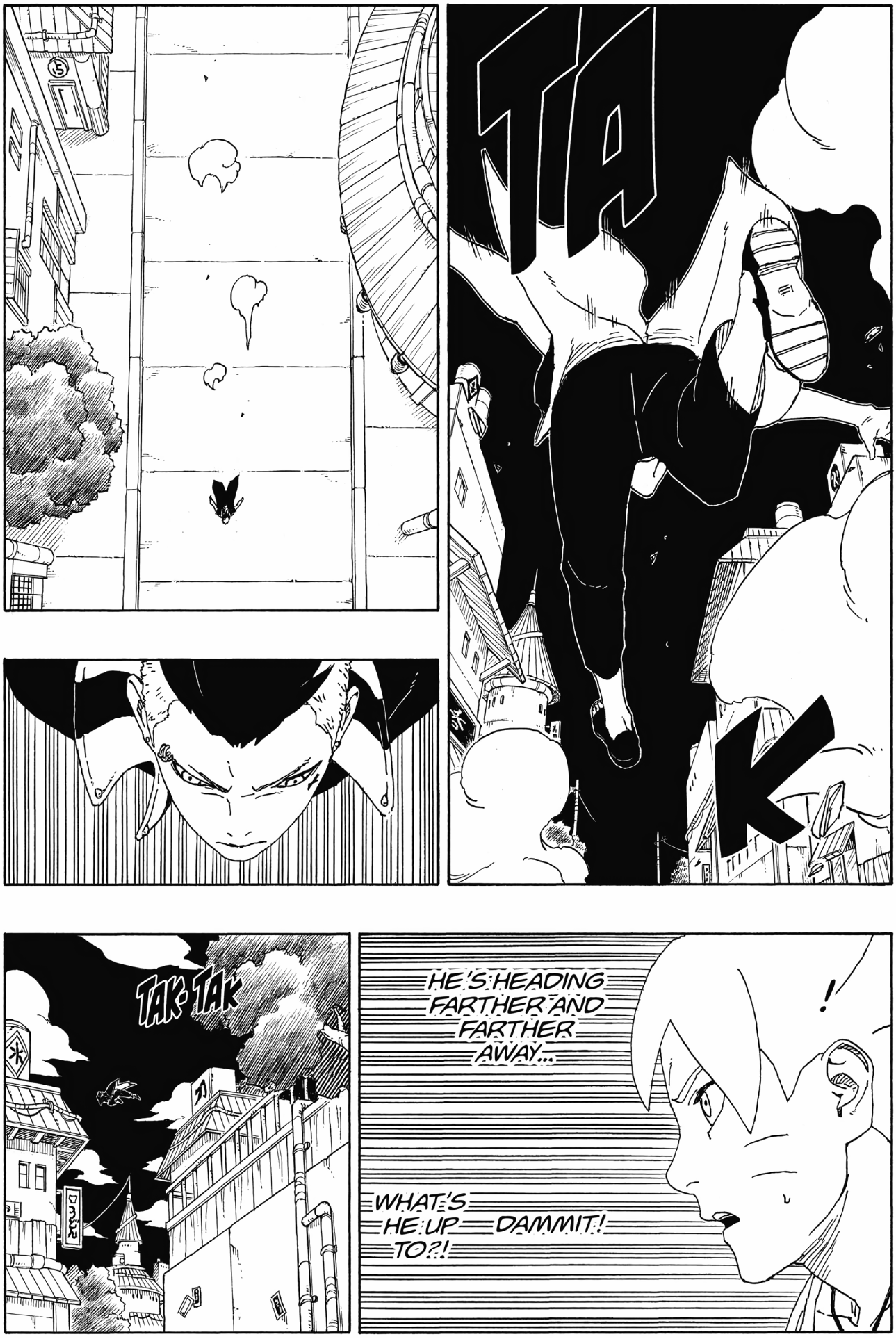

...
HE'S GONE BACK IN.
ALL CLEAR.
RSTL
...
HUH?
FLIK
KATNK

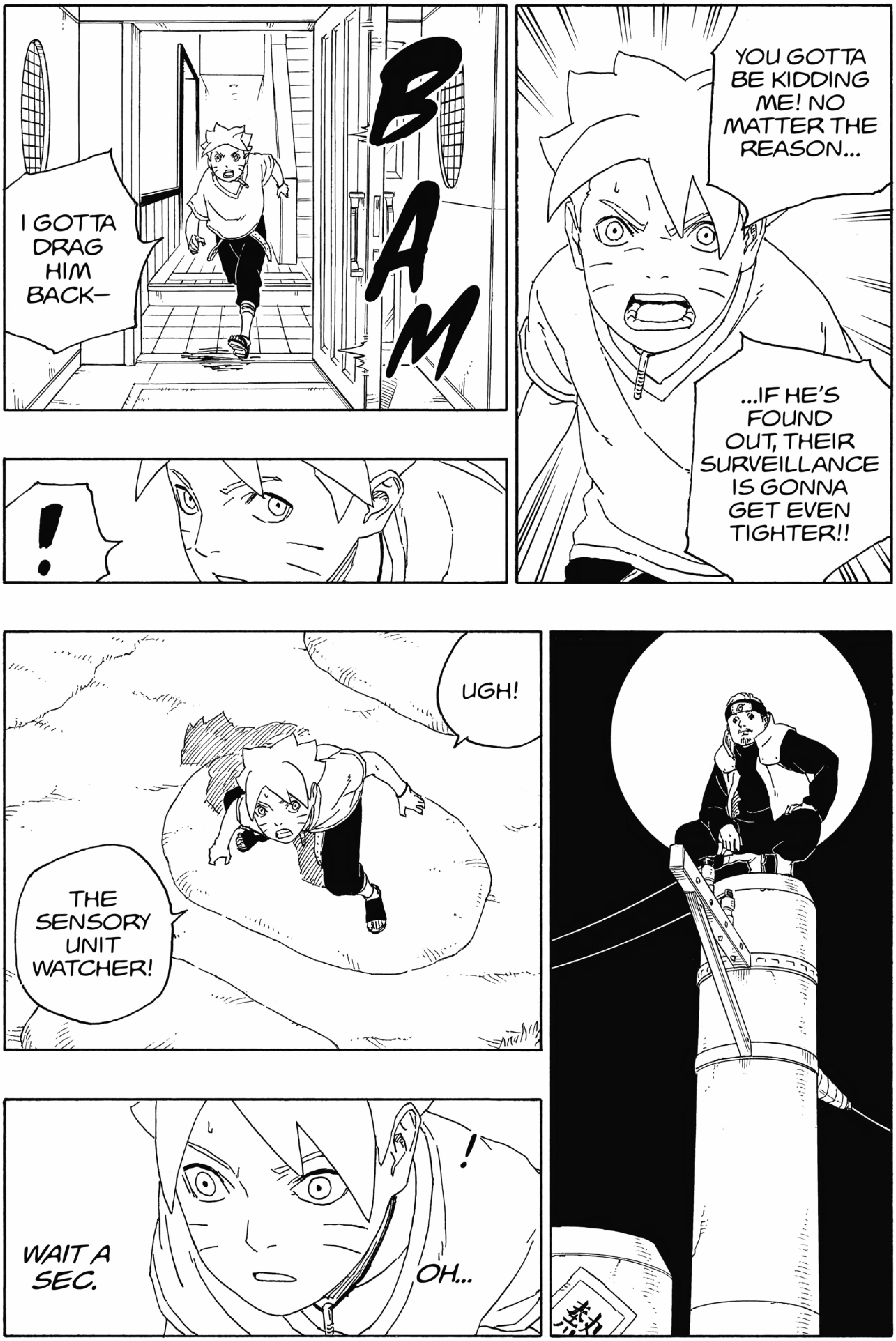

RTTL
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
HEY, KAWAKI.
UH...
YOU OKAY?
...
I'M TIRED.
CAN WE TALK TOMORROW?
FSH

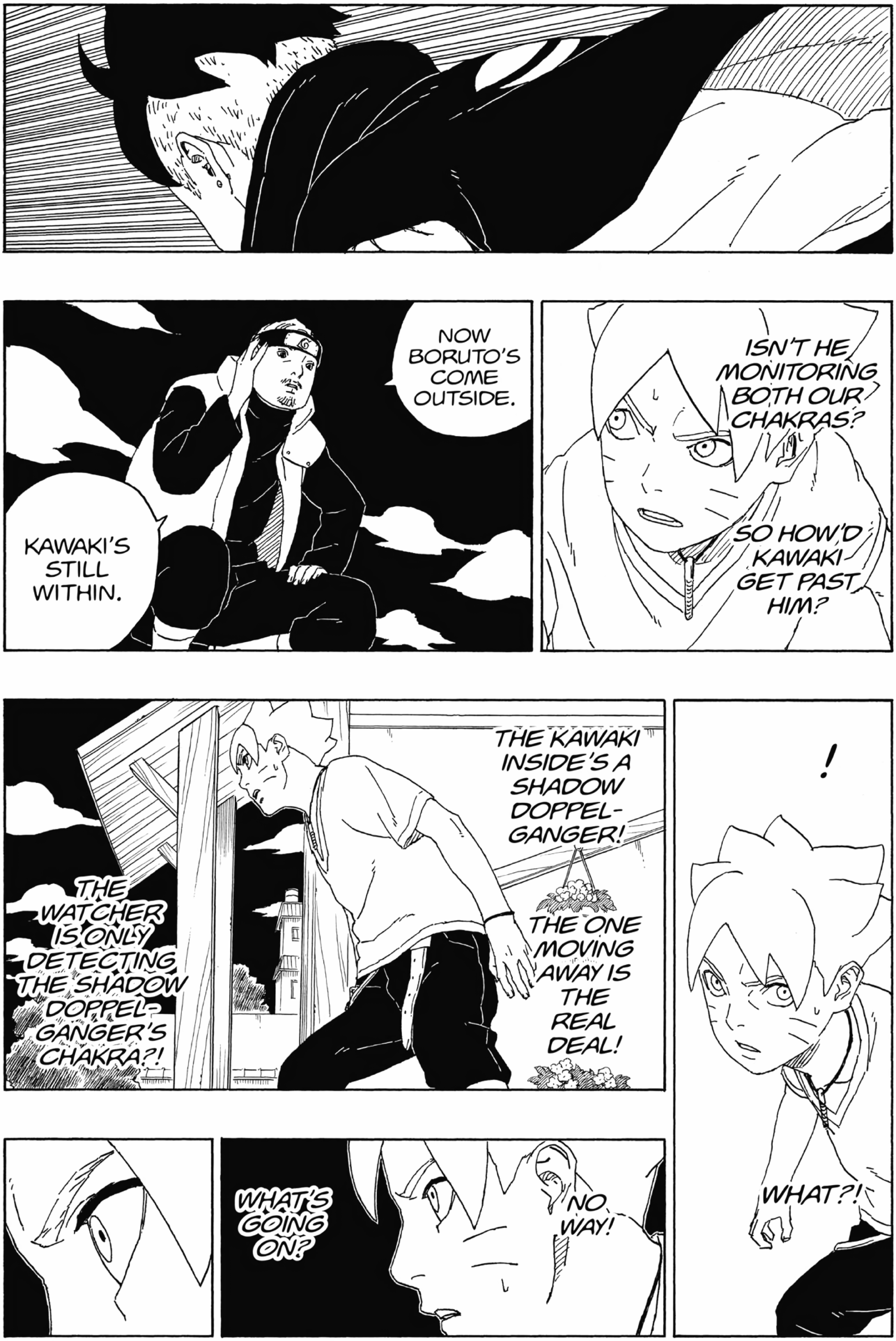

...
WHAT THE...
...
SOME-THING'S...
...NOT QUITE RIGHT...
VWOOOO

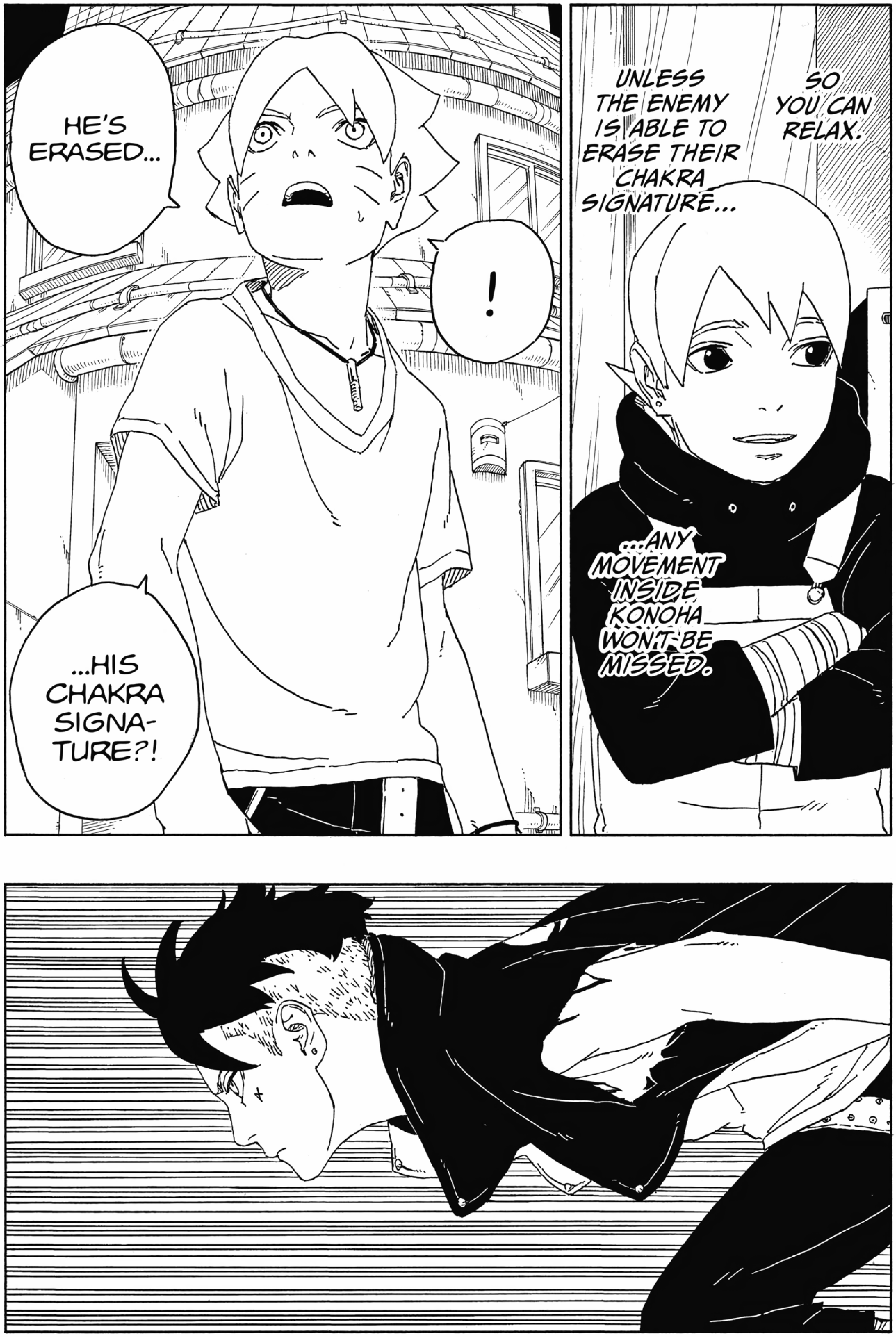

O
O
O
O
O
O
O
...
!
WAIT!
I SENSE... KAWAKI'S PRESENCE?
FROM...
...OUTSIDE THE HOUSE?!
O
O
O
O
O

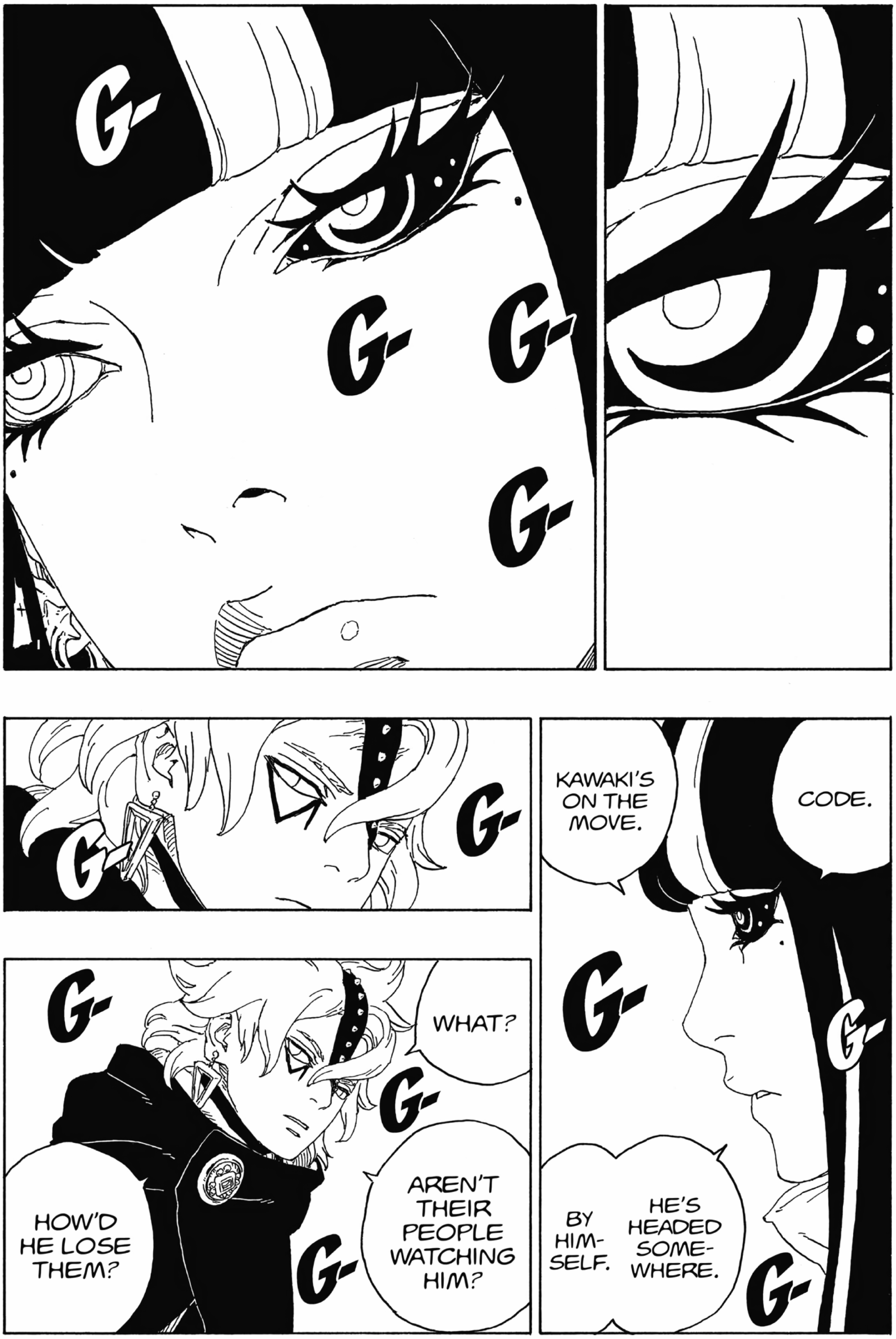

SENSING BOTH BORUTO...
...AND KAWAKI'S CHAKRAS INSIDE THE HOUSE.
STILL ALL CLEAR.
CONTINUING SURVEILLANCE.
VOP
DASH
NO MISTAKE, HE'S OUTSIDE RIGHT NOW.
THEN THAT KAWAKI WHO JUST WENT UPSTAIRS...
A SHADOW DOPPELGANGER?!
...

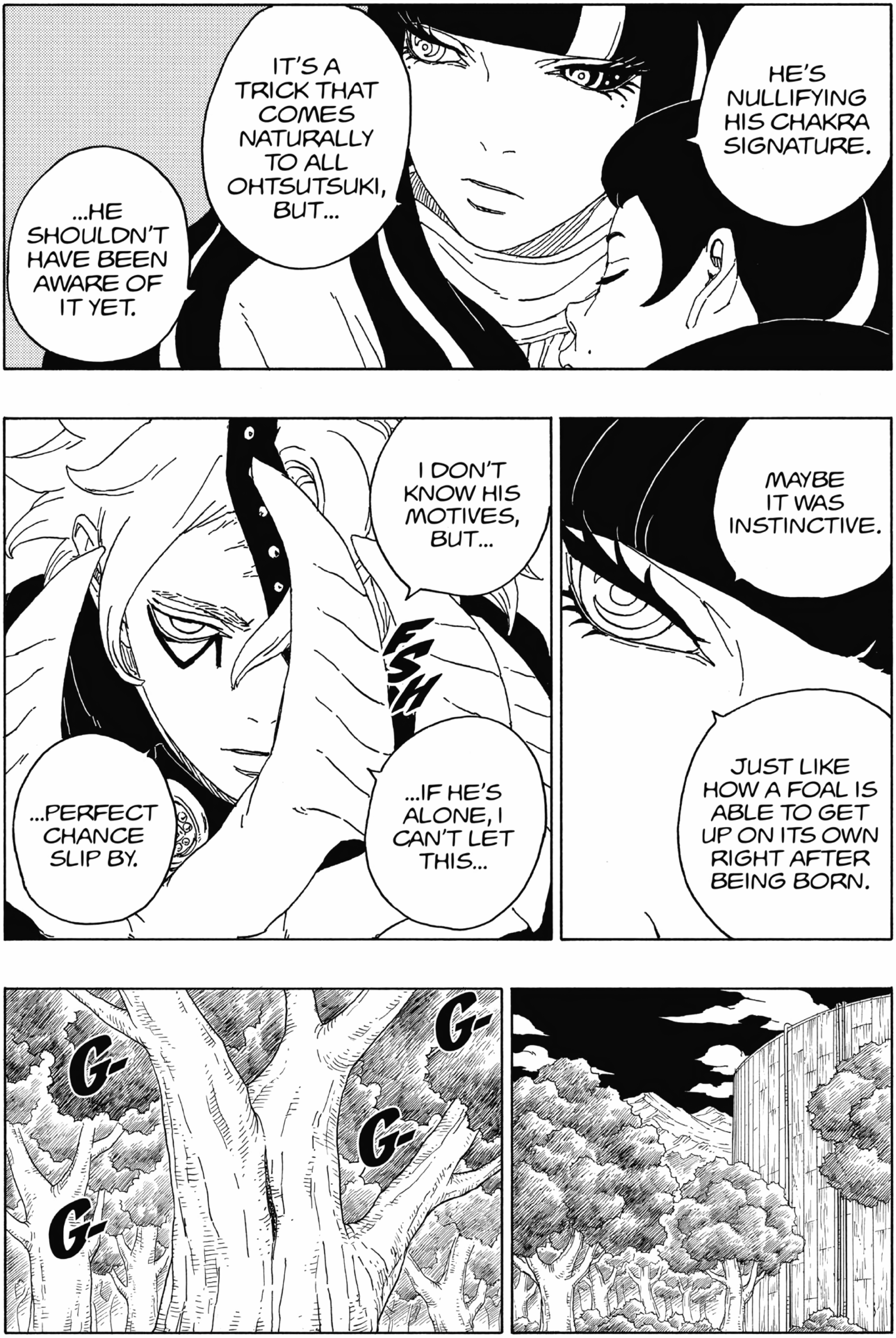

TA
K
!
HE'S HEADING FARTHER AND FARTHER AWAY...
DAMMIT!
WHAT'S HE UP TO?!
TAK-TAK

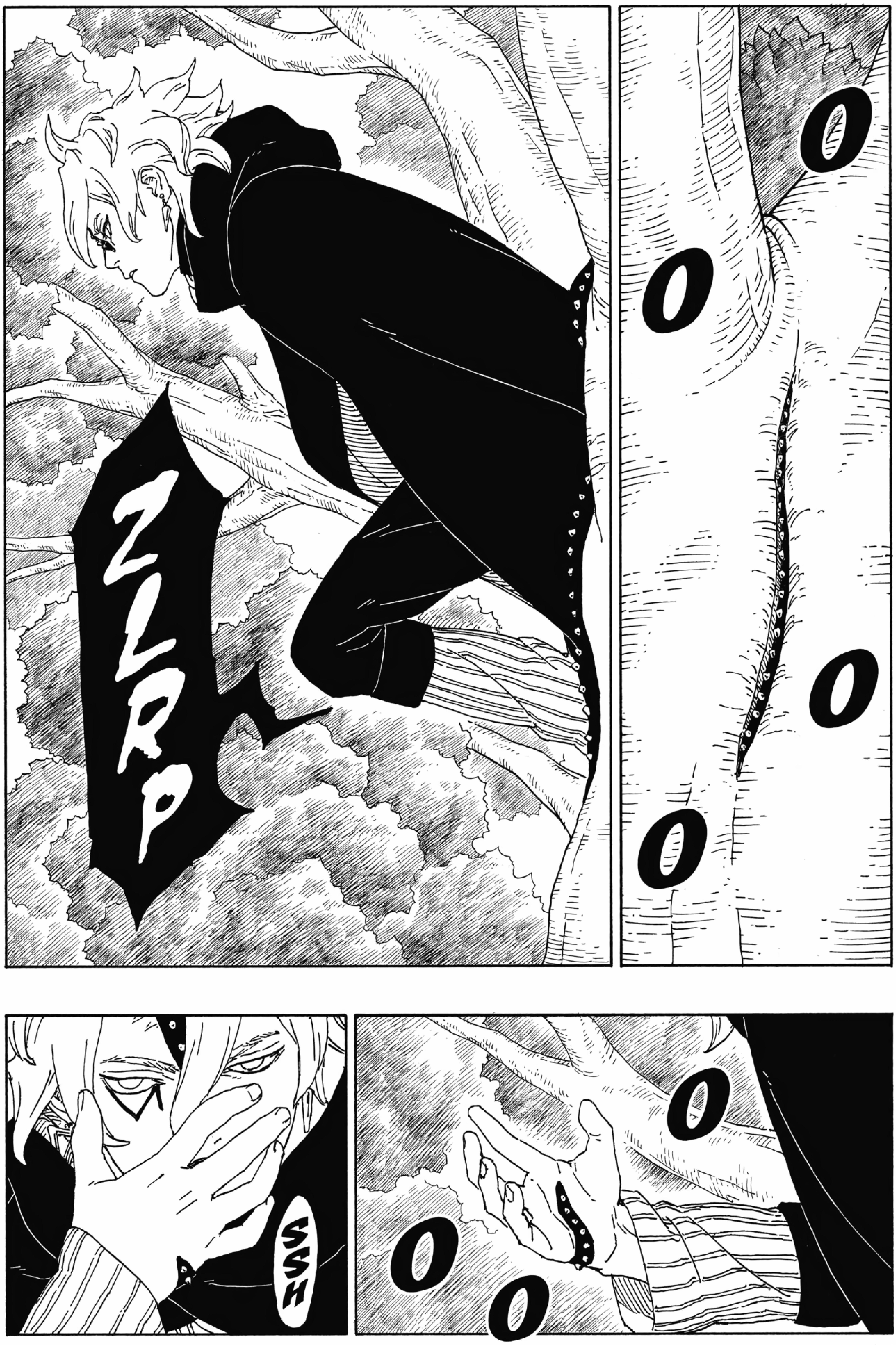

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME! NO MATTER THE REASON...
...IF HE'S FOUND OUT, THEIR SURVEILLANCE IS GONNA GET EVEN TIGHTER!!
BAM
I GOTTA DRAG HIM BACK—
!
UGH!
THE SENSORY UNIT WATCHER!
!
OH...
WAIT A SEC.

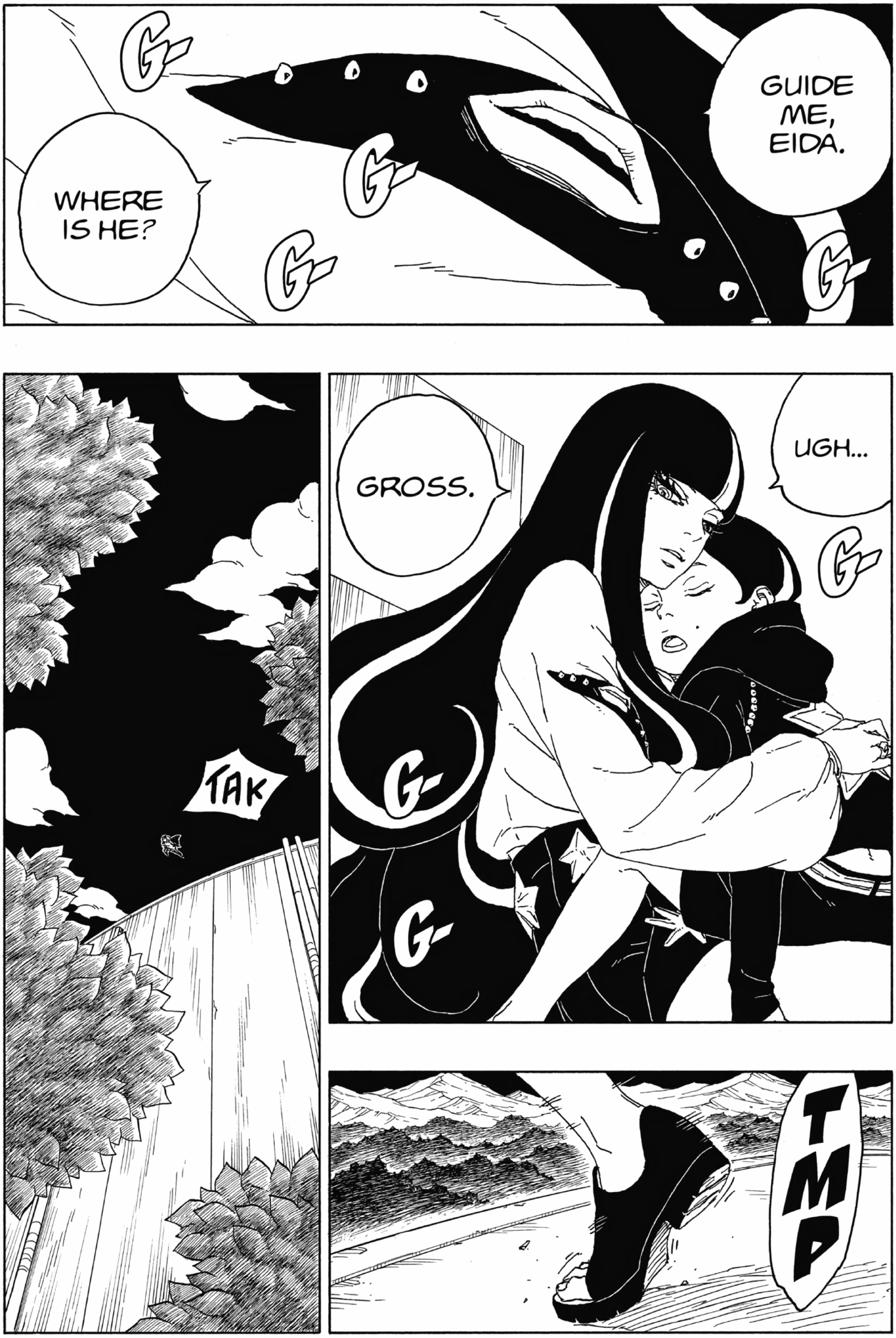

NOW BORUTO'S COME OUTSIDE.
KAWAKI'S STILL WITHIN.
ISN'T HE MONITORING BOTH OUR CHAKRAS?
SO HOW'D KAWAKI GET PAST HIM?
!
WHAT?!
THE KAWAKI INSIDE'S A SHADOW DOPPELGANGER!
THE ONE MOVING AWAY IS THE REAL DEAL!
THE WATCHER IS ONLY DETECTING THE SHADOW DOPPELGANGER'S CHAKRA?!
NO WAY!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

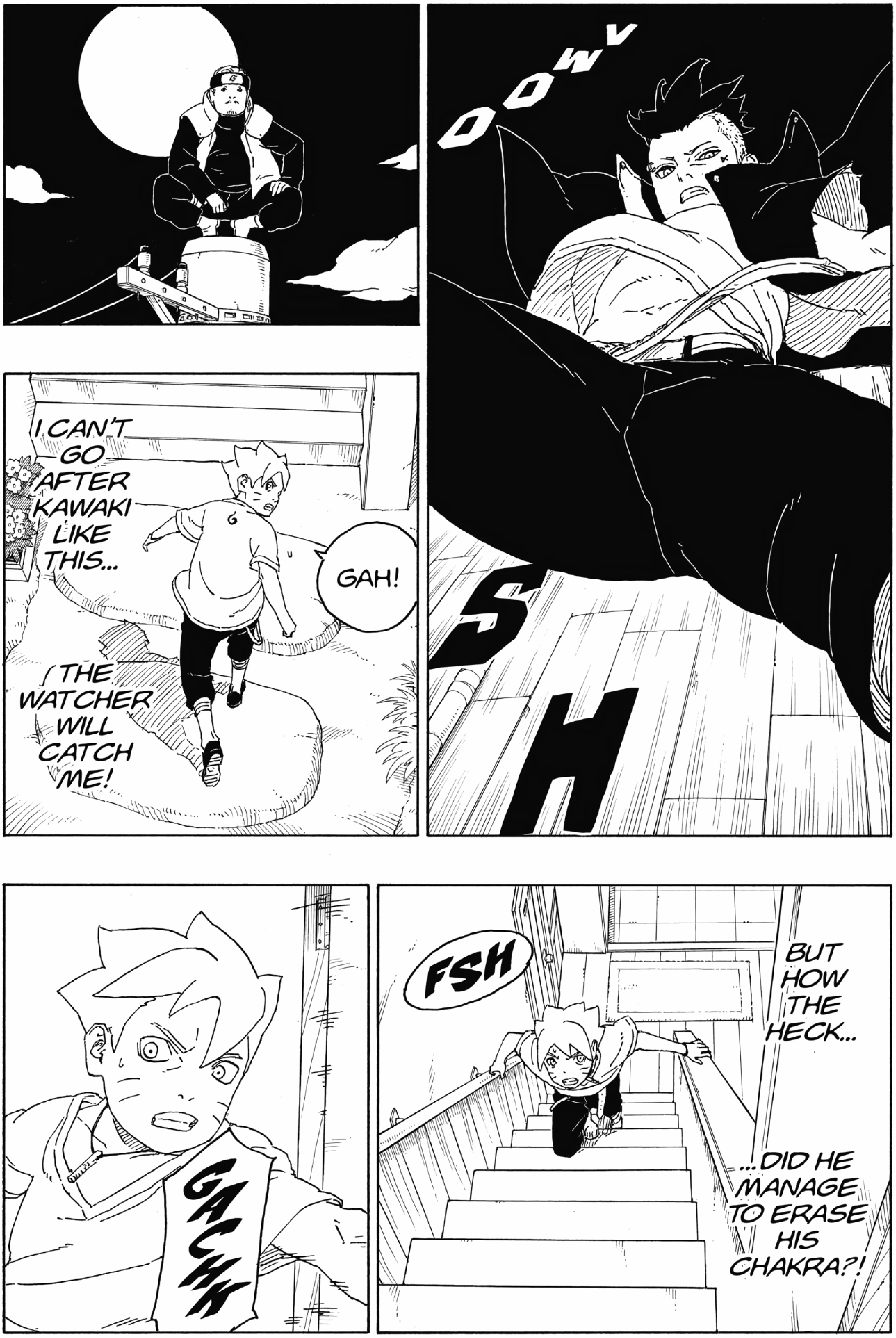

SO YOU CAN RELAX.
UNLESS THE ENEMY IS ABLE TO ERASE THEIR CHAKRA SIGNATURE...
...ANY MOVEMENT INSIDE KONOHA WON'T BE MISSED.
HE'S ERASED...
!
...HIS CHAKRA SIGNATURE?!

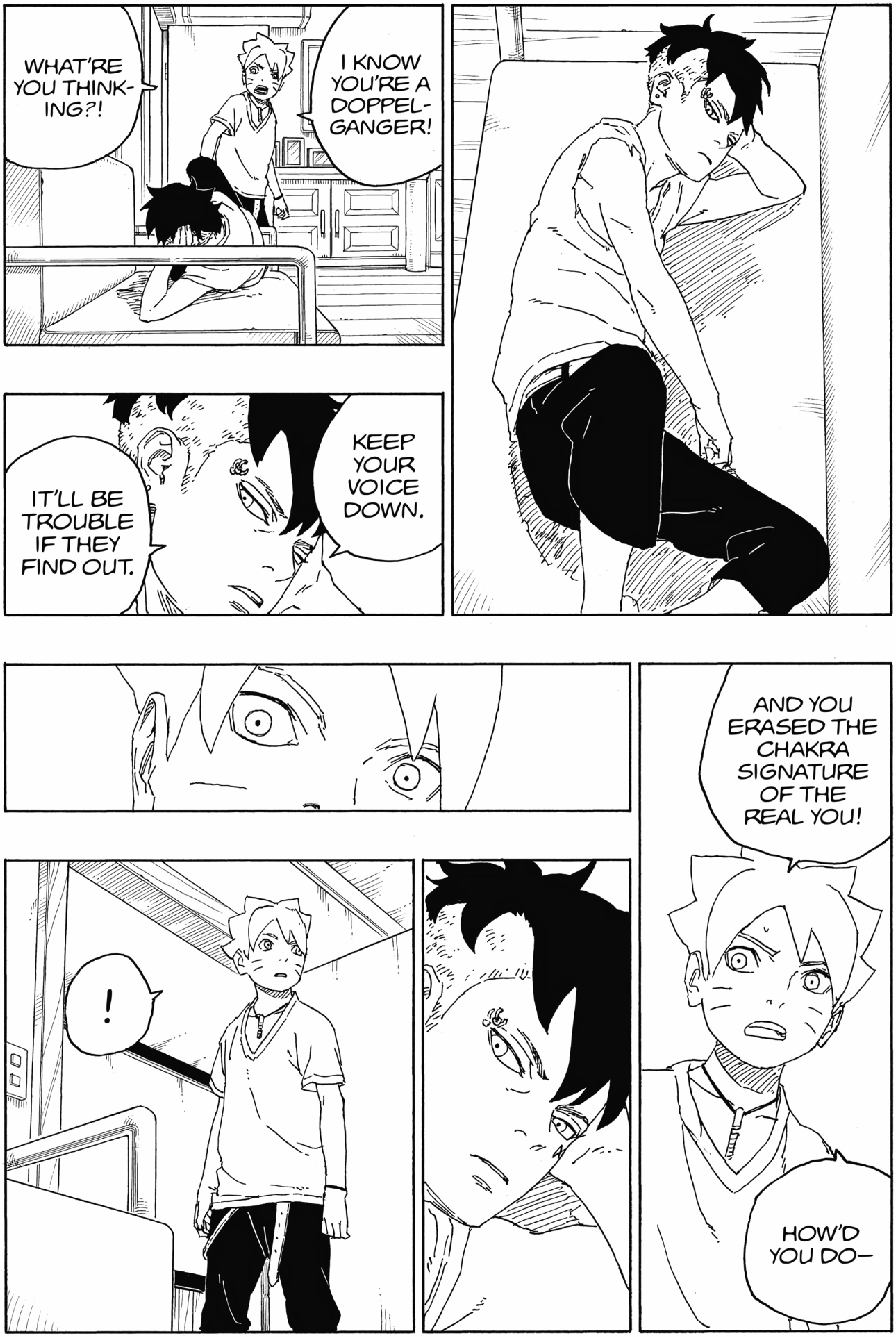

G-
G-
G-
G-
CODE.
KAWAKI'S ON THE MOVE.
G-
G-
HE'S HEADED SOMEWHERE.
BY HIMSELF.
G-
G-
G-
WHAT?
G-
G-
AREN'T THEIR PEOPLE WATCHING HIM?
HOW'D HE LOSE THEM?
G-

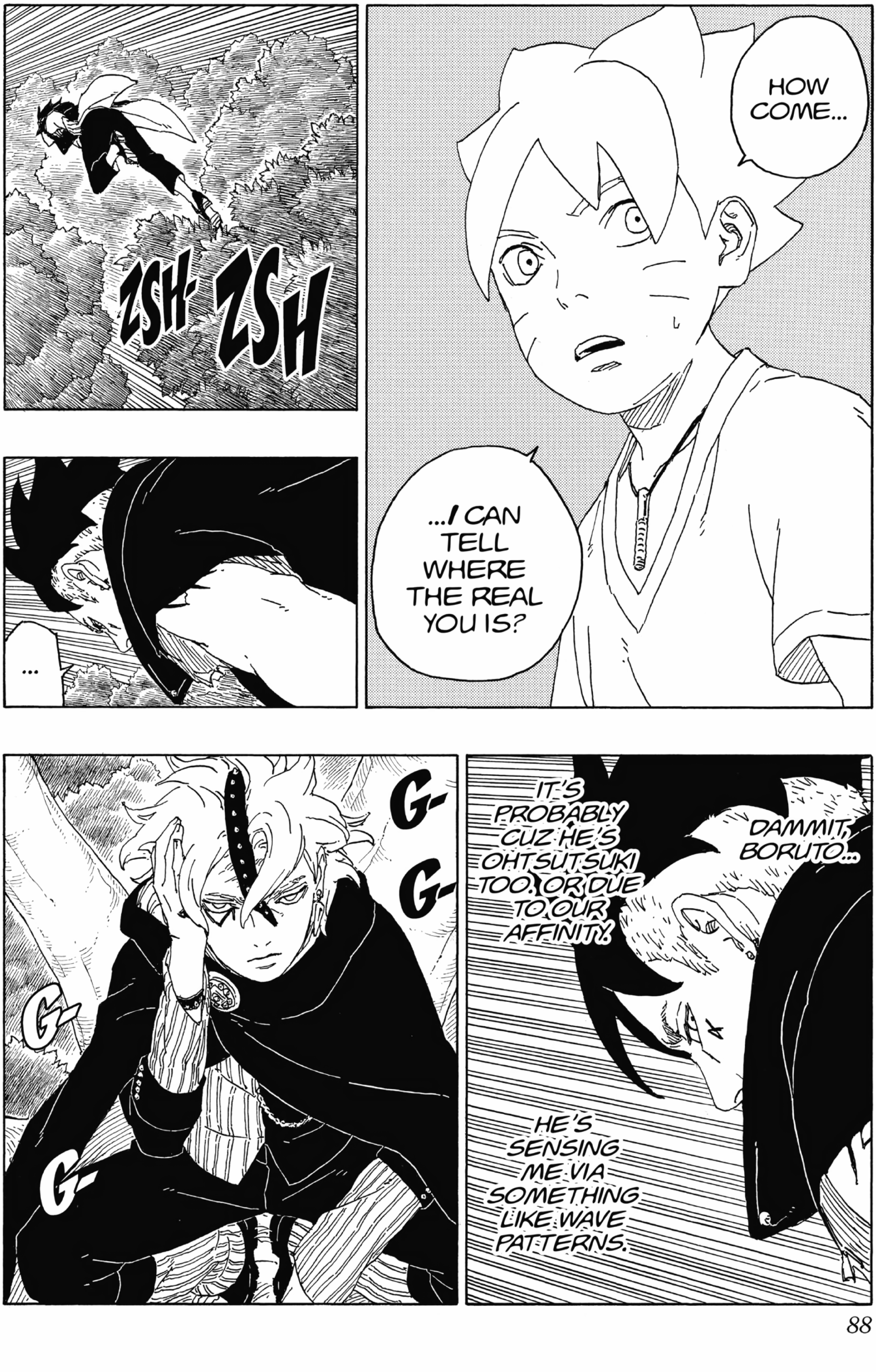

HE'S NULLIFYING HIS CHAKRA SIGNATURE.
IT'S A TRICK THAT COMES NATURALLY TO ALL OHTSUTSUKI, BUT...
...HE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN AWARE OF IT YET.
MAYBE IT WAS INSTINCTIVE.
JUST LIKE HOW A FOAL IS ABLE TO GET UP ON ITS OWN RIGHT AFTER BEING BORN.
I DON'T KNOW HIS MOTIVES, BUT...
FSH
...IF HE'S ALONE, I CAN'T LET THIS...
...PERFECT CHANCE SLIP BY.
G-
G-
G-
G-

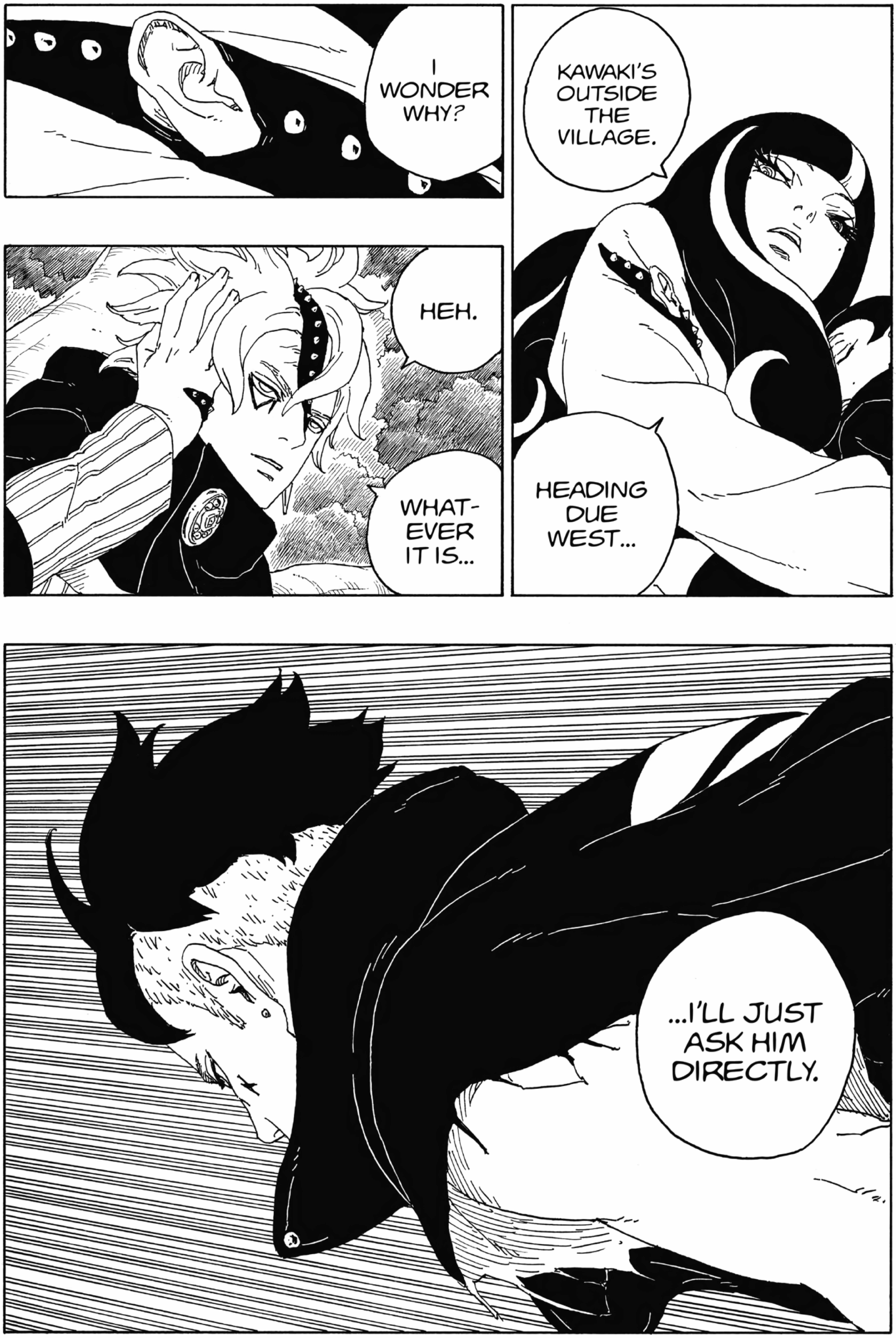

OOOO
ZZRP
OOOO
SSH


GUIDE ME, EIDA.
G-
G-
G-
G-
WHERE IS HE?
UGH...
GROSS.
G-
G-
G-
TAK
TMP


WOOSH
I CAN'T GO AFTER KAWAKI LIKE THIS...
GAH!
THE WATCHER WILL CATCH ME!
FSH
BUT HOW THE HECK...
...DID HE MANAGE TO ERASE HIS CHAKRA?!
GACHK

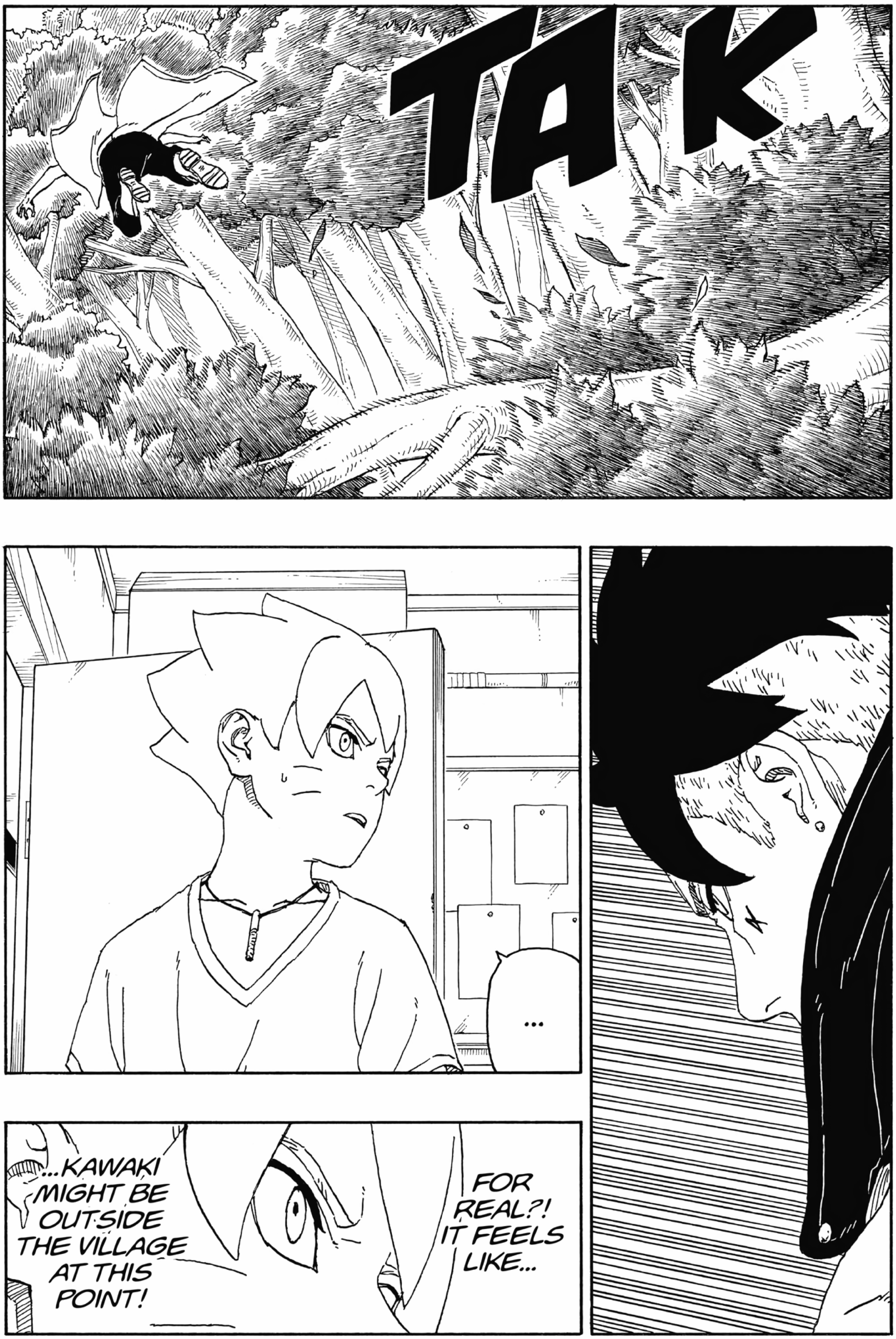

I KNOW YOU'RE A DOPPELGANGER!
WHAT'RE YOU THINKING?!
KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN.
IT'LL BE TROUBLE IF THEY FIND OUT.
AND YOU ERASED THE CHAKRA SIGNATURE OF THE REAL YOU!
HOW'D YOU DO—
!

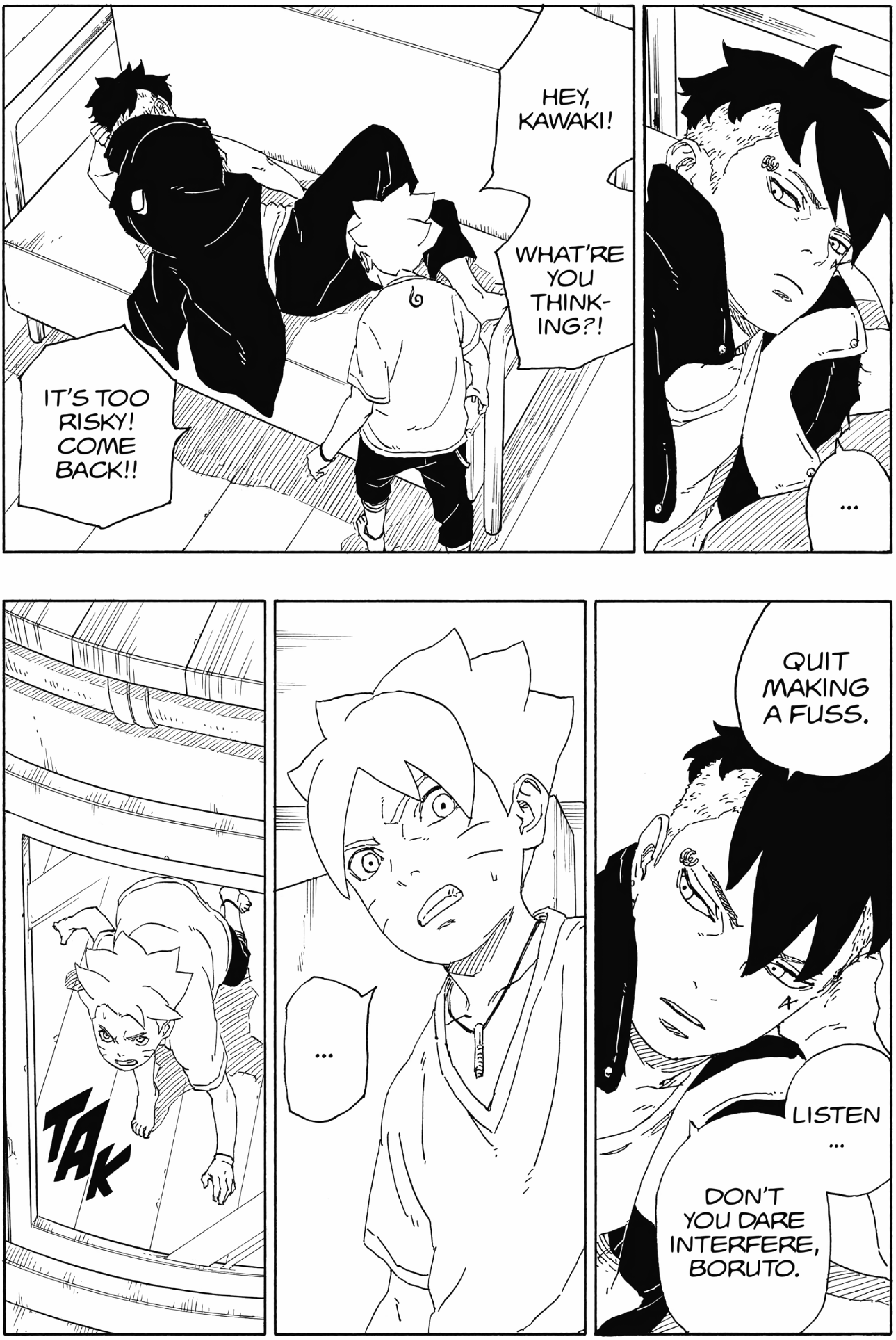

HOW COME...
...I CAN TELL WHERE THE REAL YOU IS?
ZSH-ZSH
...
DAMMIT, BORUTO...
IT'S PROBABLY CUZ HE'S OHTSUTSUKI TOO. OR DUE TO OUR AFFINITY.
HE'S SENSING ME VIA SOMETHING LIKE WAVE PATTERNS.
G-G-G-G-

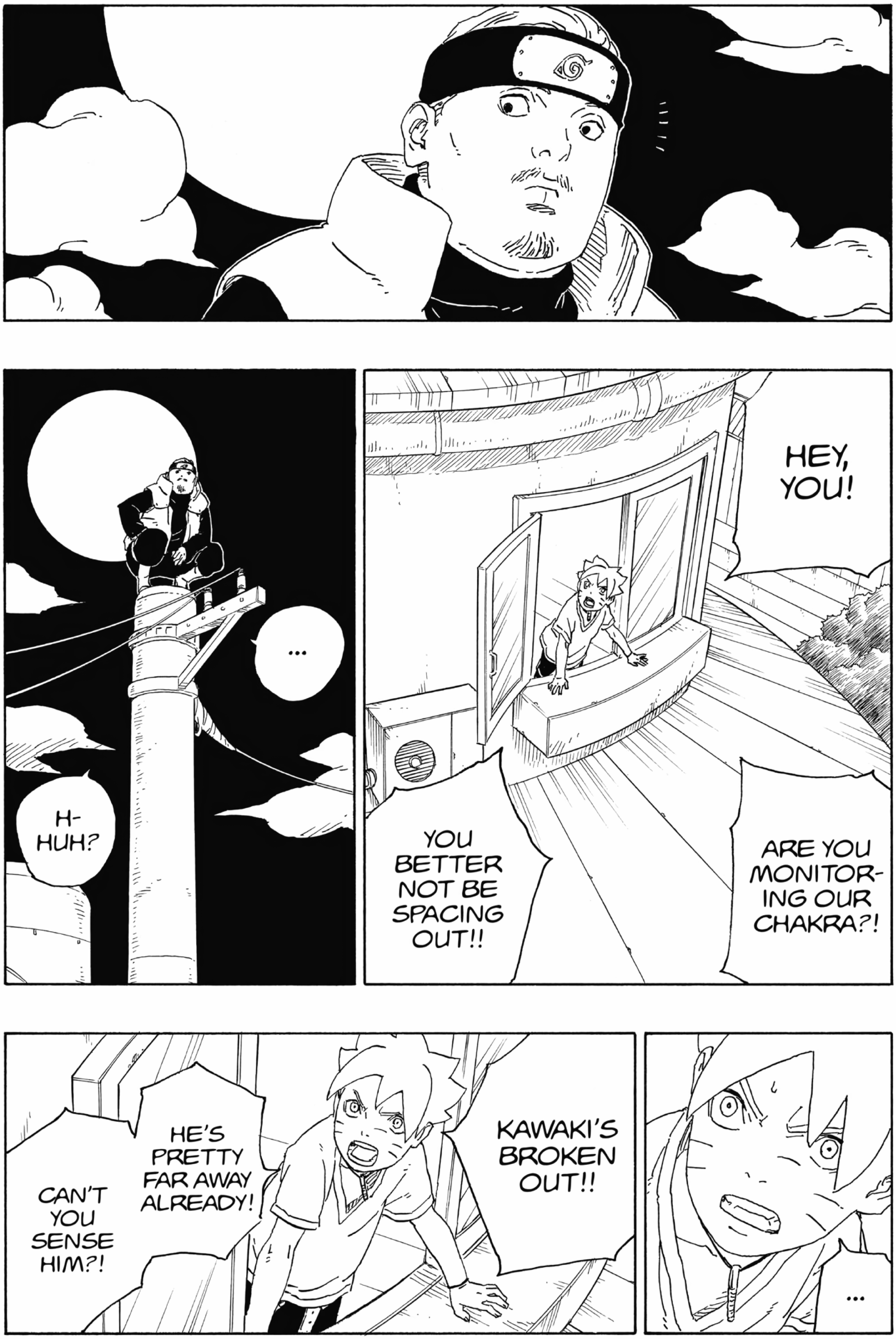

KAWAKI'S OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE.
HEADING DUE WEST...
I WONDER WHY?
HEH.
WHATEVER IT IS...
...I'LL JUST ASK HIM DIRECTLY.

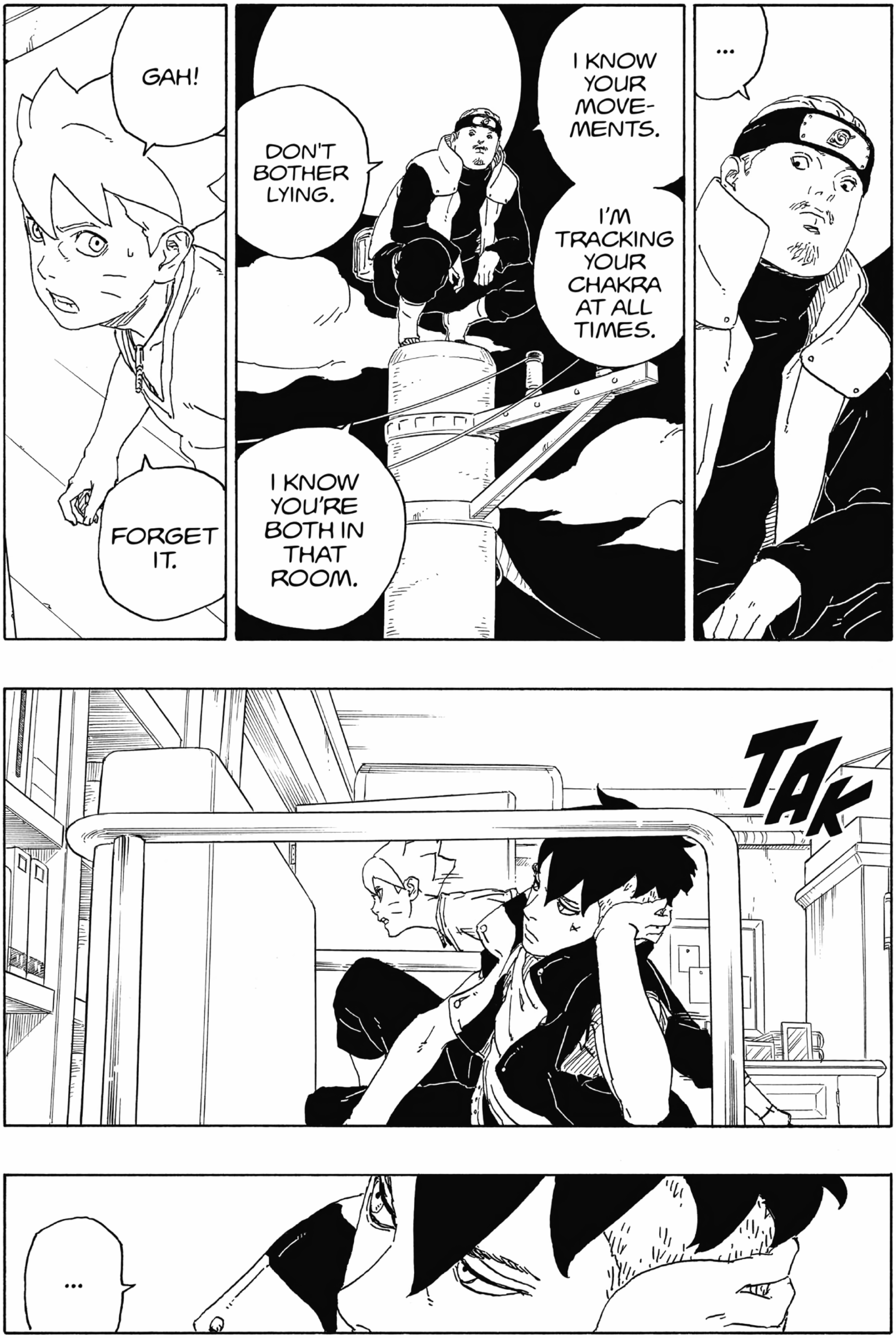
BORUTO
-NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS-

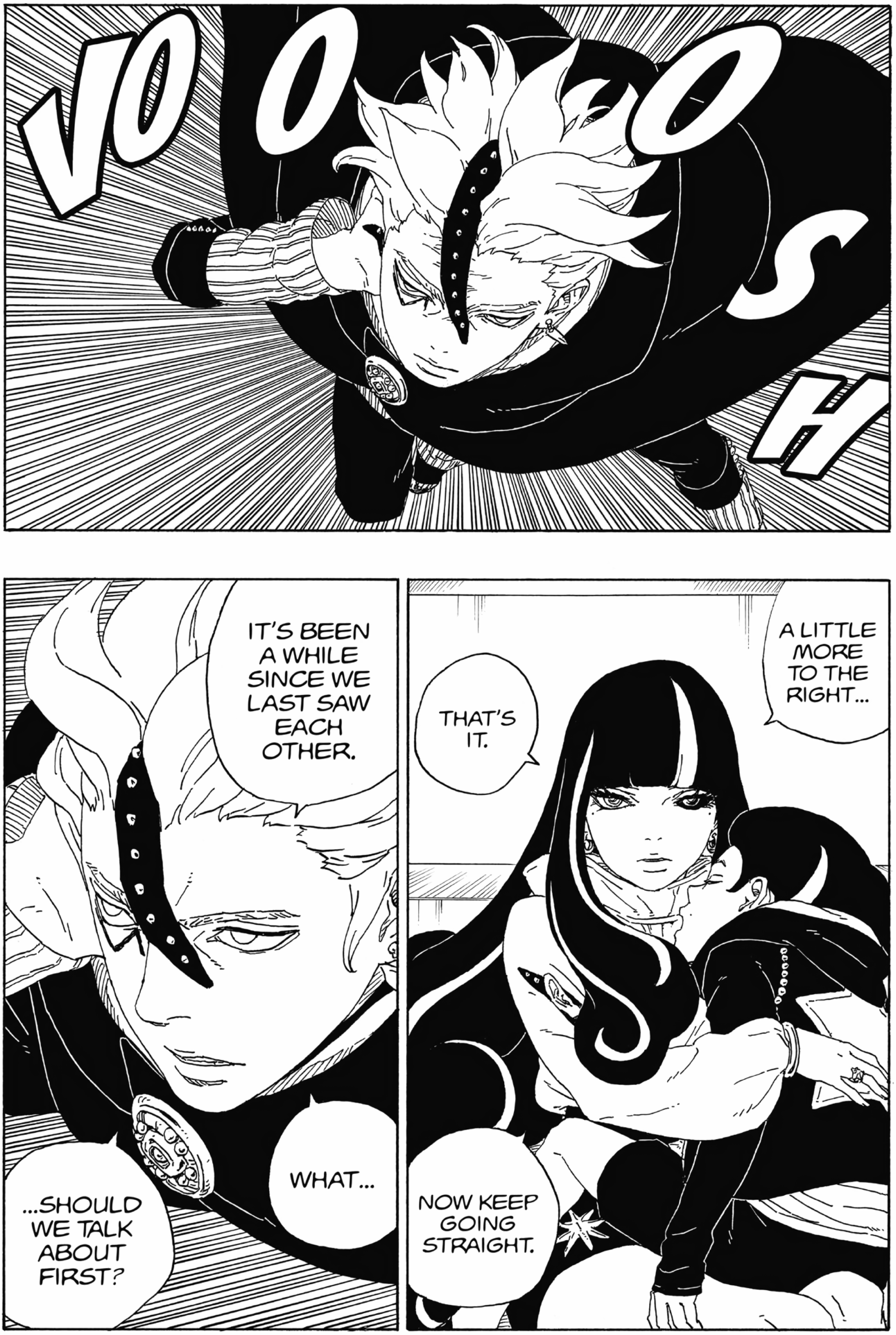
Number 62: Run-in

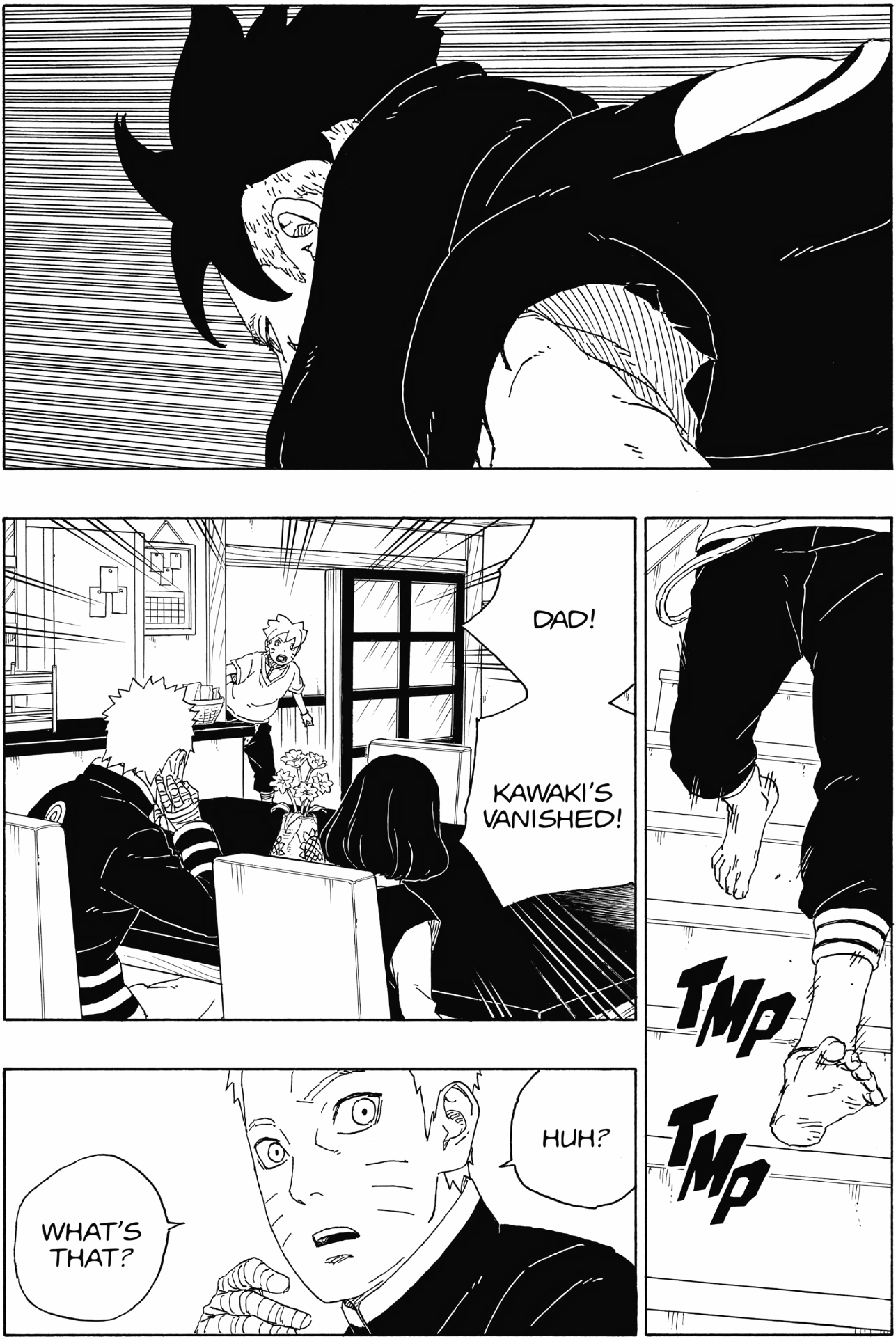

TAK
...
FOR REAL?! IT FEELS LIKE...
...KAWAKI MIGHT BE OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE AT THIS POINT!

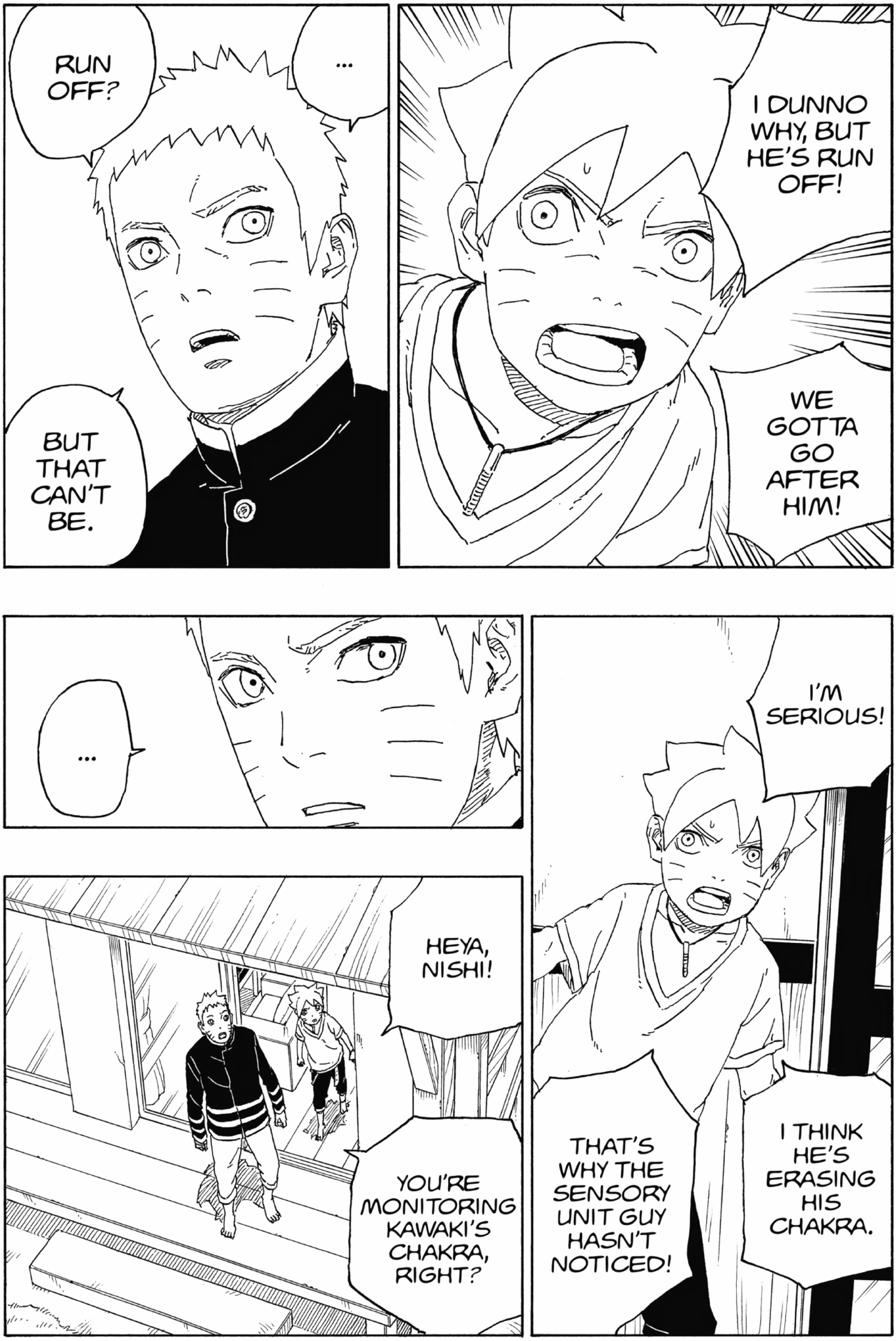

...
HEY, KAWAKI!
WHAT'RE YOU THINKING?!
IT'S TOO RISKY! COME BACK!!
QUIT MAKING A FUSS.
LISTEN...
DON'T YOU DARE INTERFERE, BORUTO.
...
TAK

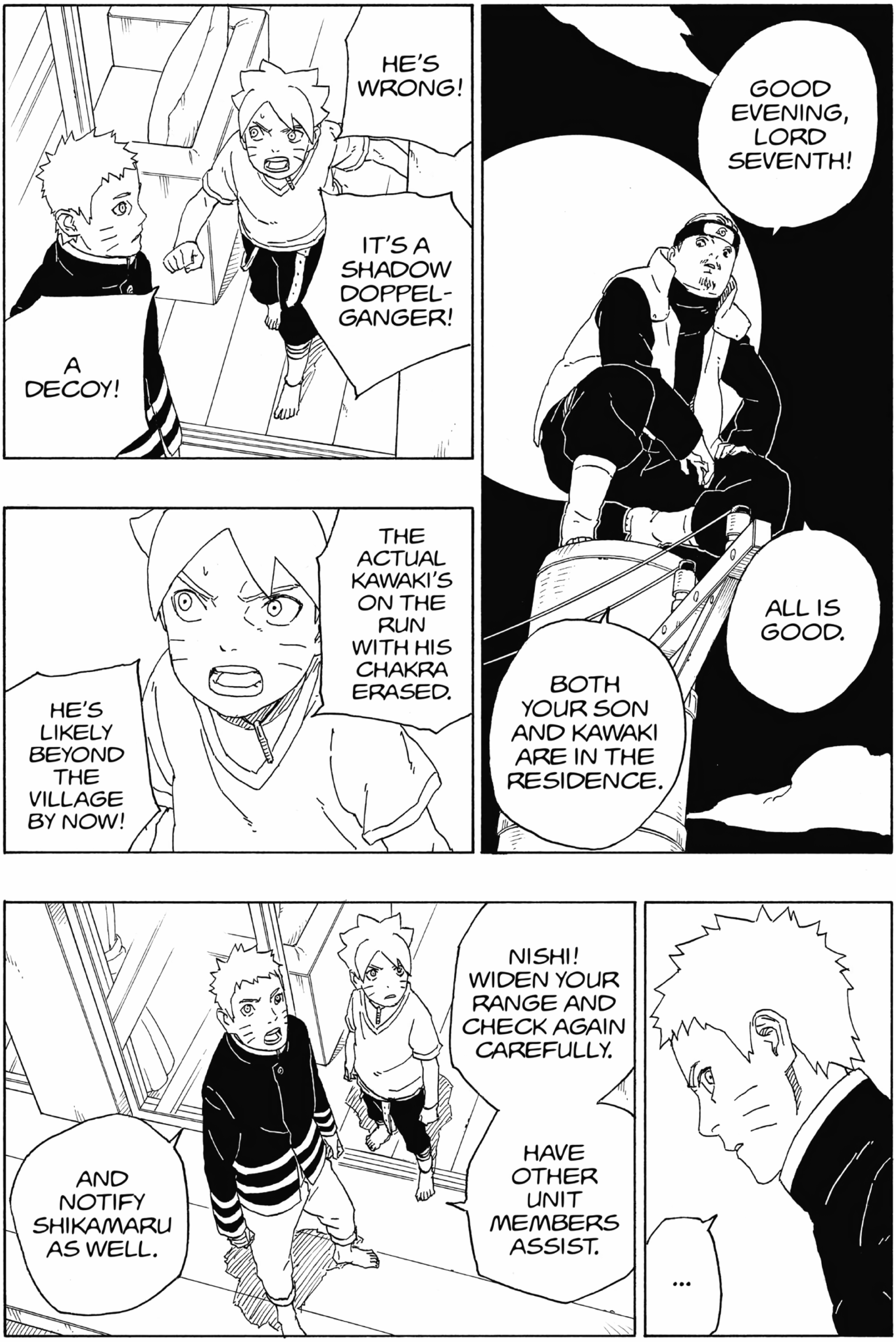

HEY, YOU!
ARE YOU MONITORING OUR CHAKRA?!
YOU BETTER NOT BE SPACING OUT!!
...
H-HUH?
...
KAWAKI'S BROKEN OUT!!
HE'S PRETTY FAR AWAY ALREADY!
CAN'T YOU SENSE HIM?!

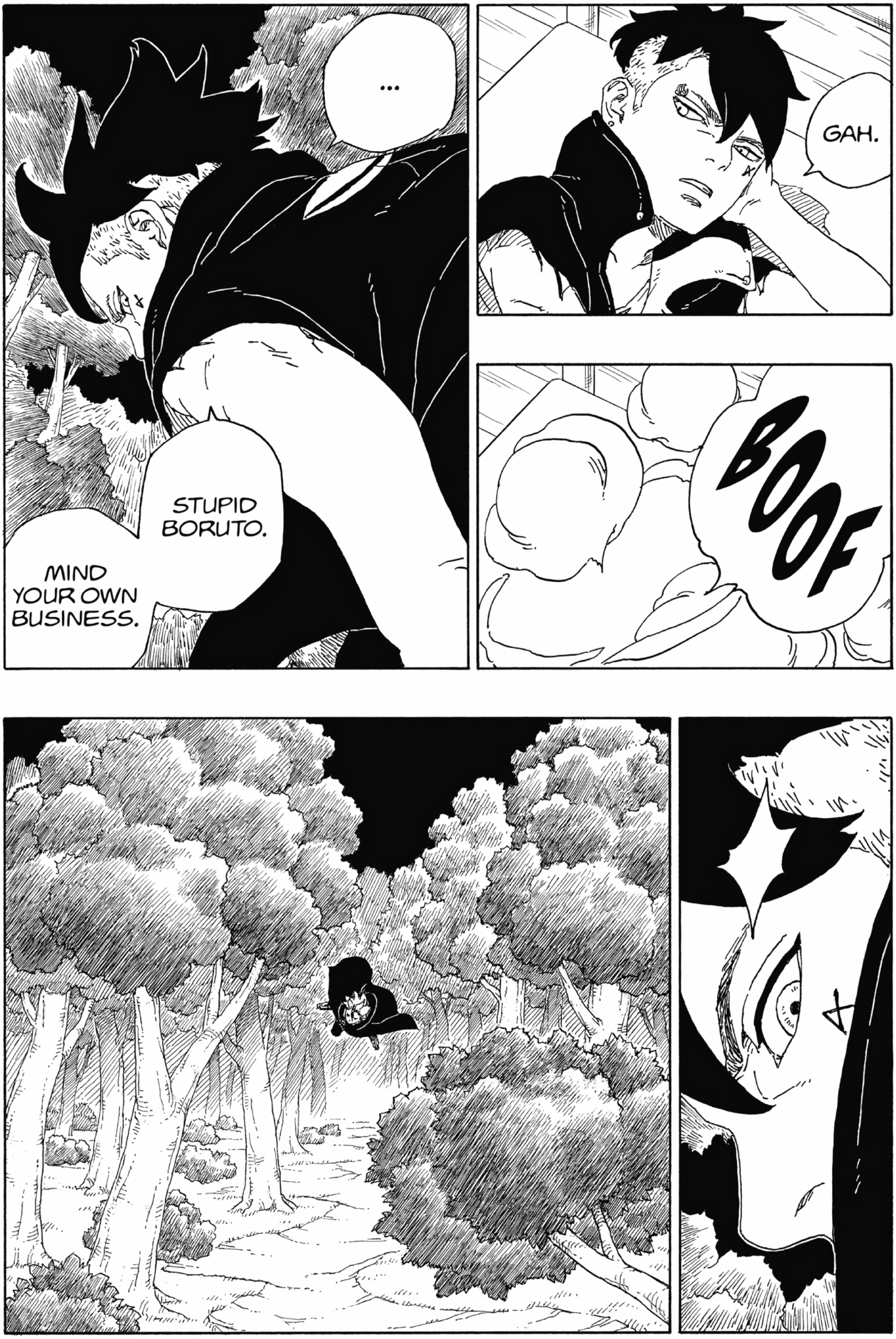

...
I KNOW YOUR MOVEMENTS.
I'M TRACKING YOUR CHAKRA AT ALL TIMES.
DON'T BOTHER LYING.
I KNOW YOU'RE BOTH IN THAT ROOM.
GAH!
FORGET IT.
TAK
...

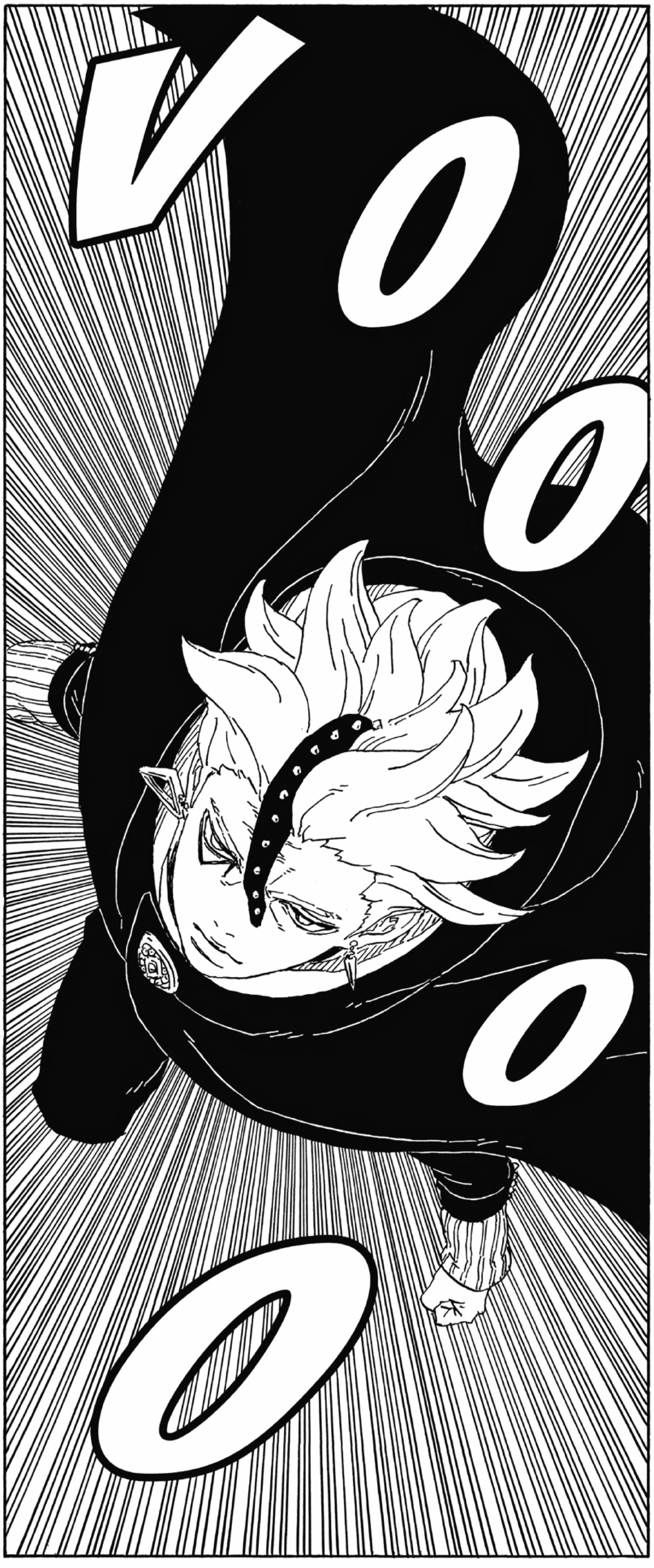

VOOOOSH
A LITTLE MORE TO THE RIGHT...
THAT'S IT.
NOW KEEP GOING STRAIGHT.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE LAST SAW EACH OTHER.
WHAT...
...SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT FIRST?

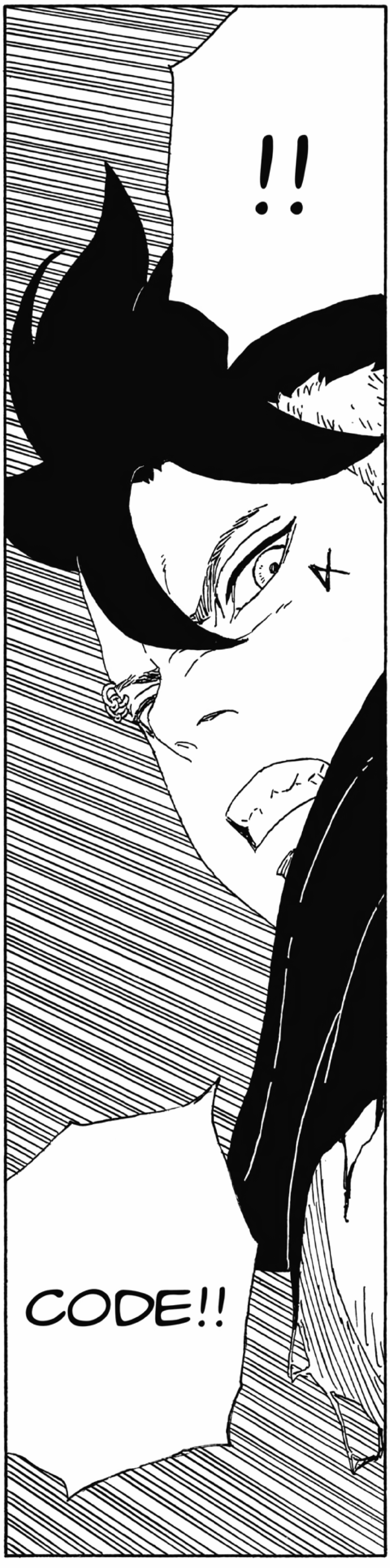

TMP
TMP
DAD!
KAWAKI'S VANISHED!
HUH?
WHAT'S THAT?

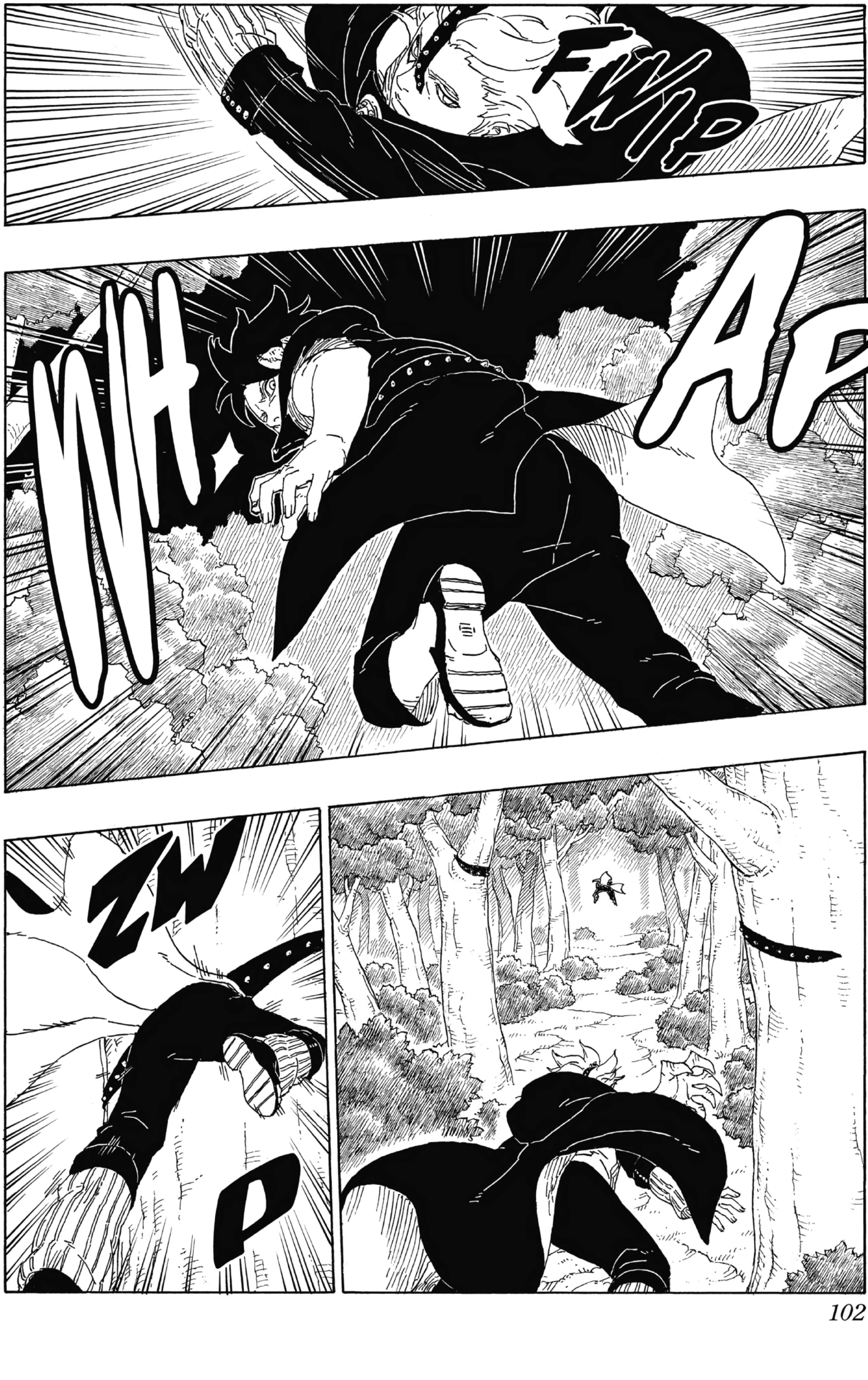

I DUNNO WHY, BUT HE'S RUN OFF!
WE GOTTA GO AFTER HIM!
RUN OFF?
...
BUT THAT CAN'T BE.
I'M SERIOUS!
I THINK HE'S ERASING HIS CHAKRA.
THAT'S WHY THE SENSORY UNIT GUY HASN'T NOTICED!
...
HEYA, NISHI!
YOU'RE MONITORING KAWAKI'S CHAKRA, RIGHT?

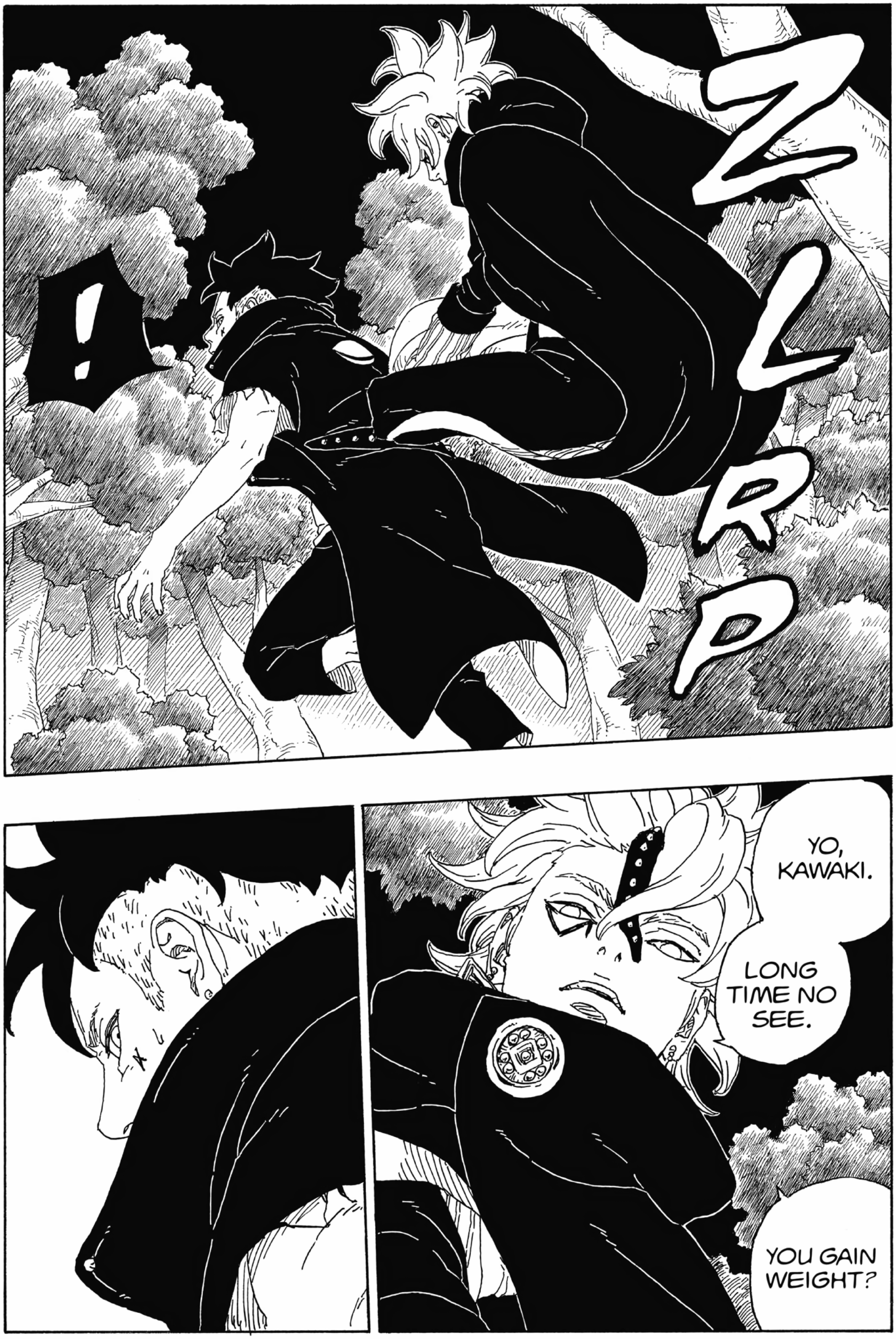

GOOD EVENING, LORD SEVENTH!
ALL IS GOOD.
BOTH YOUR SON AND KAWAKI ARE IN THE RESIDENCE.
HE'S WRONG!
IT'S A SHADOW DOPPELGANGER!
A DECOY!
THE ACTUAL KAWAKI'S ON THE RUN WITH HIS CHAKRA ERASED.
HE'S LIKELY BEYOND THE VILLAGE BY NOW!
...
NISHI! WIDEN YOUR RANGE AND CHECK AGAIN CAREFULLY.
HAVE OTHER UNIT MEMBERS ASSIST.
AND NOTIFY SHIKAMARU AS WELL.

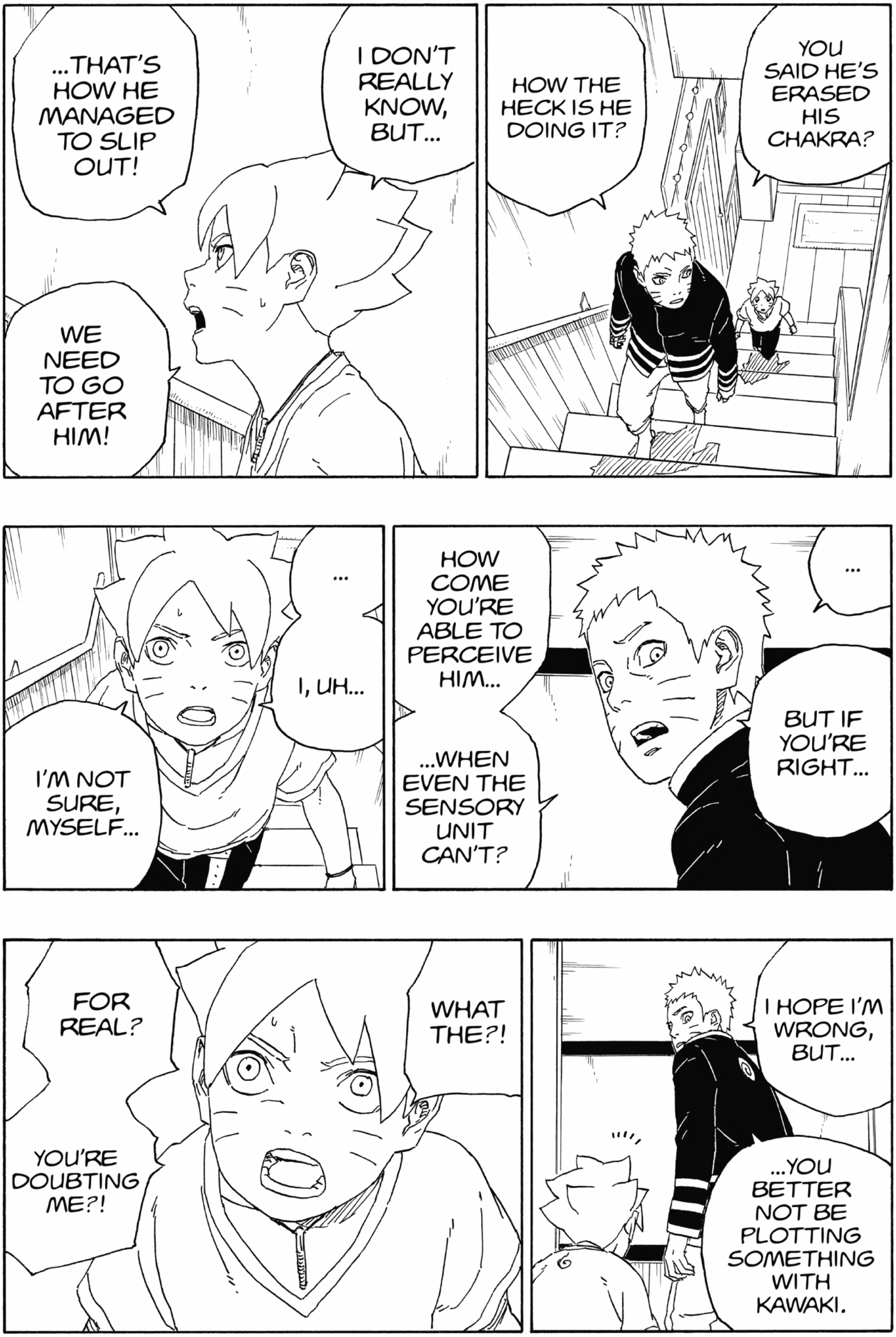

GAH.
BOOF
...
STUPID BORUTO.
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.

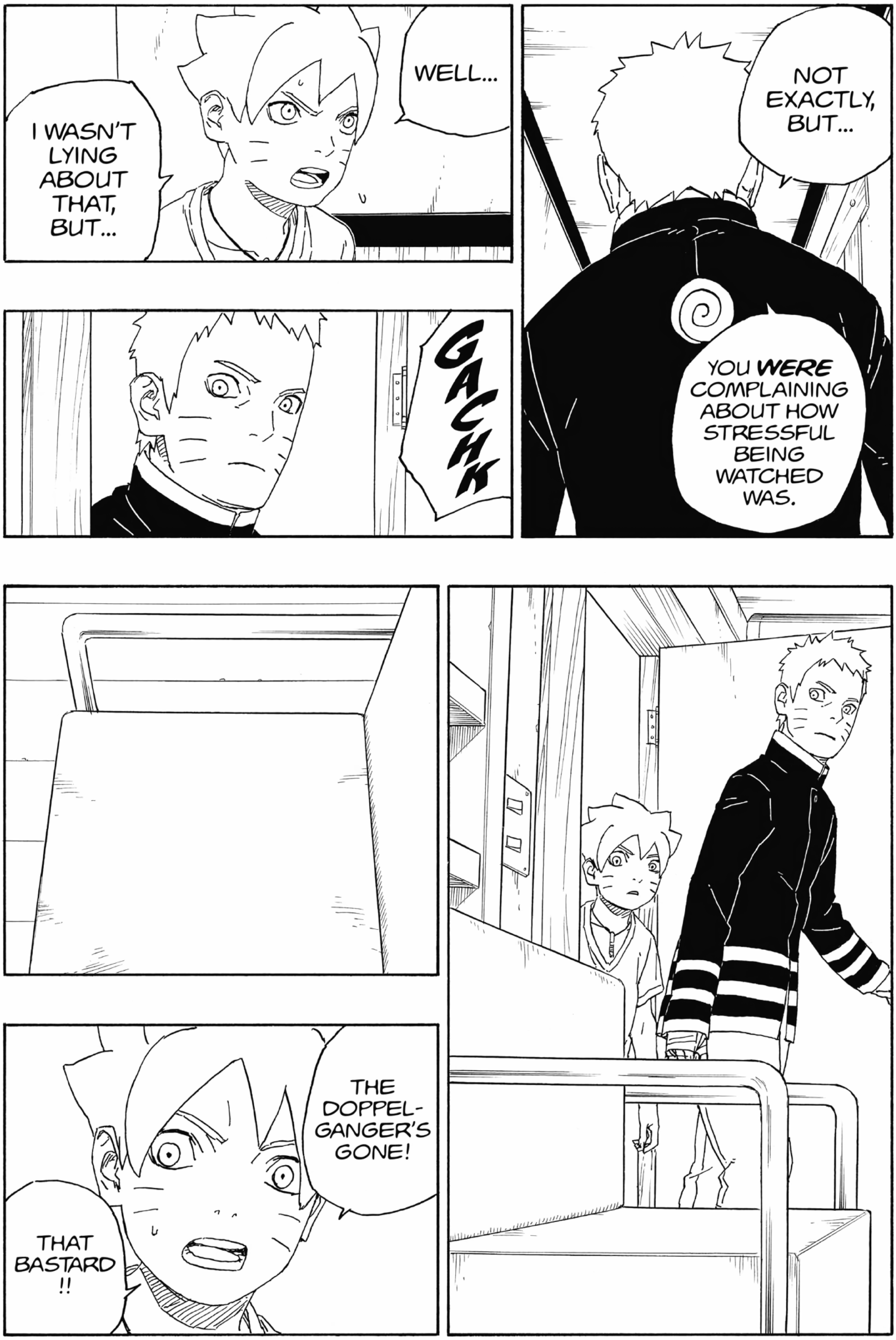

VOOOO

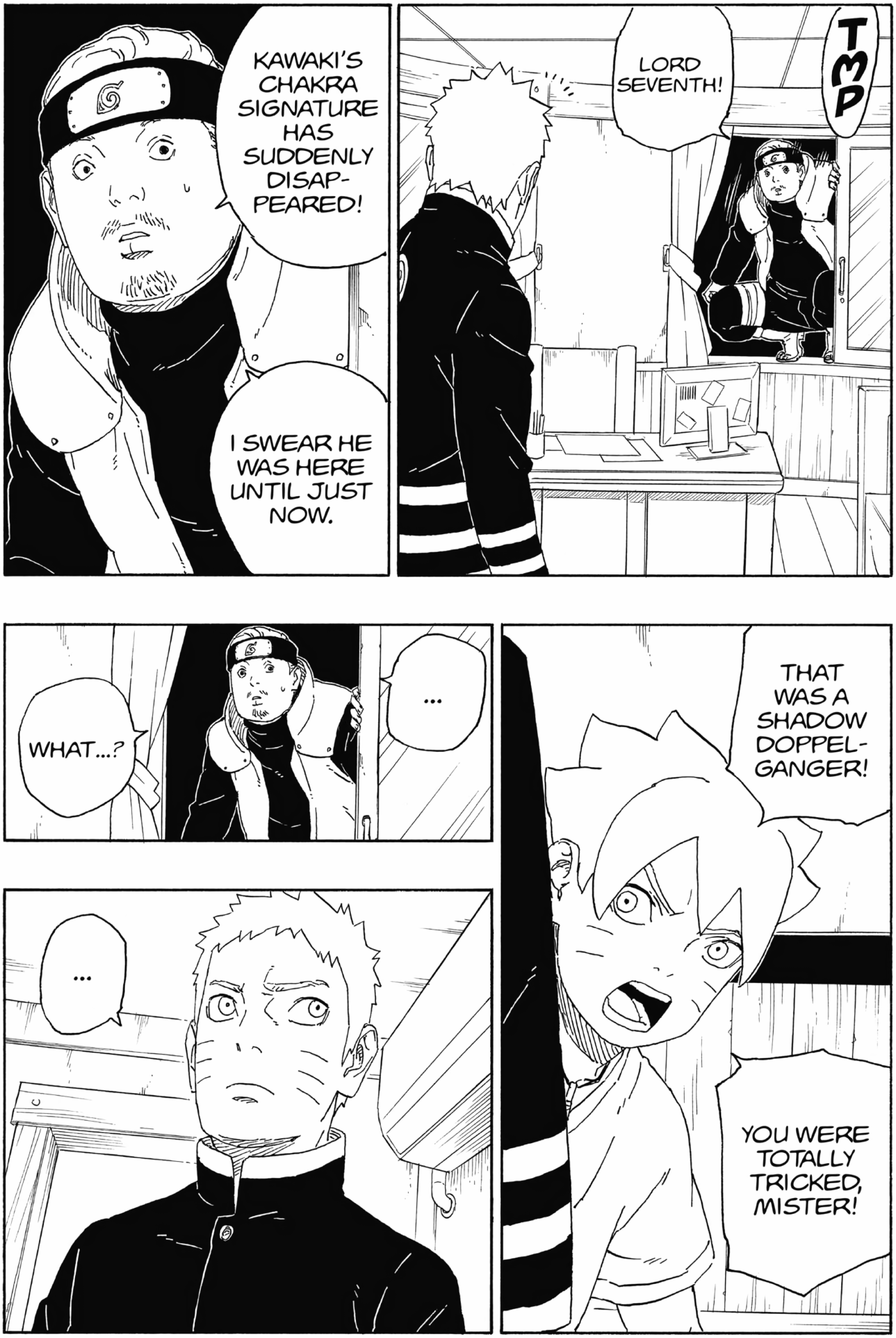

!!
CODE!!

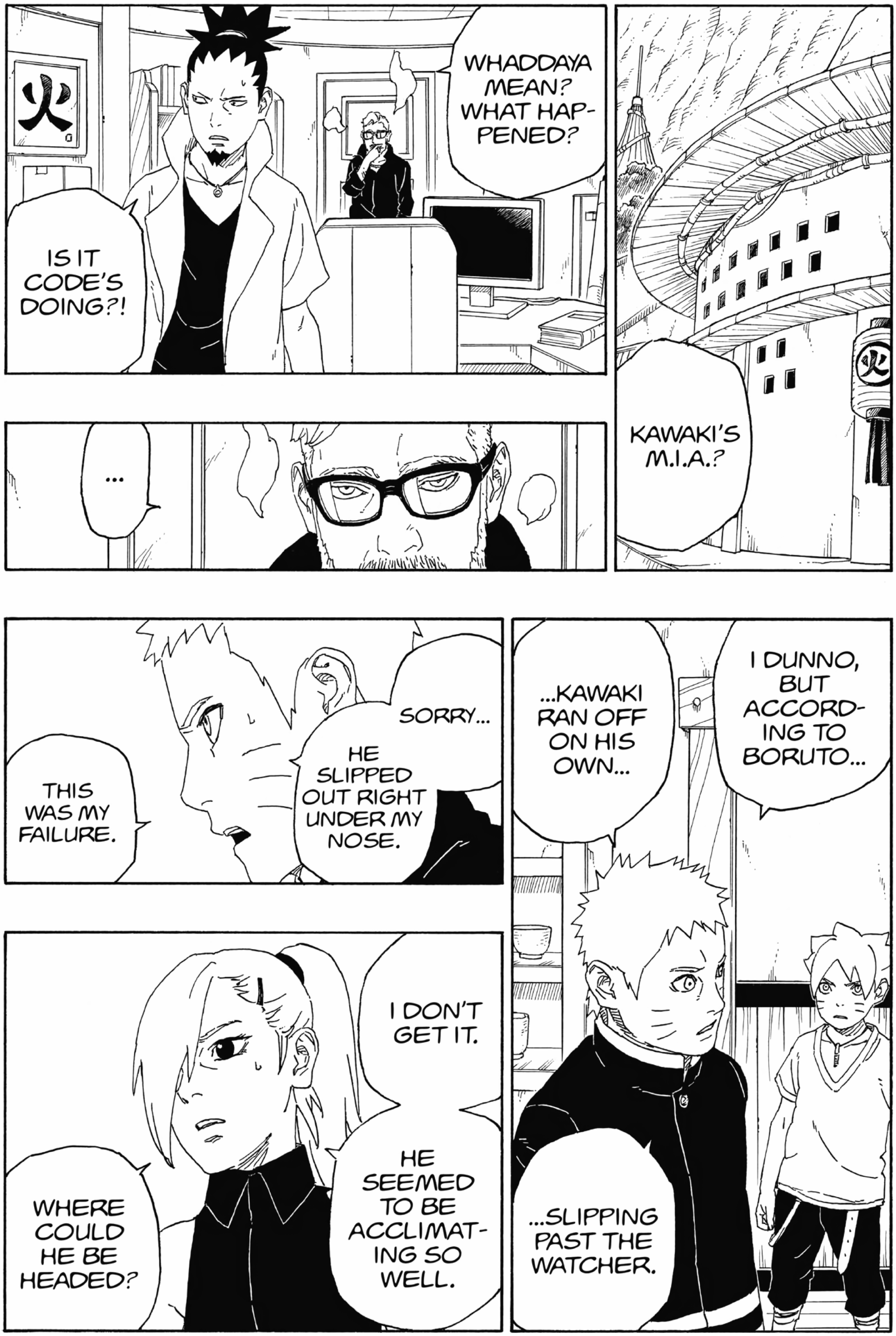

FWIP
WHAP
ZWP

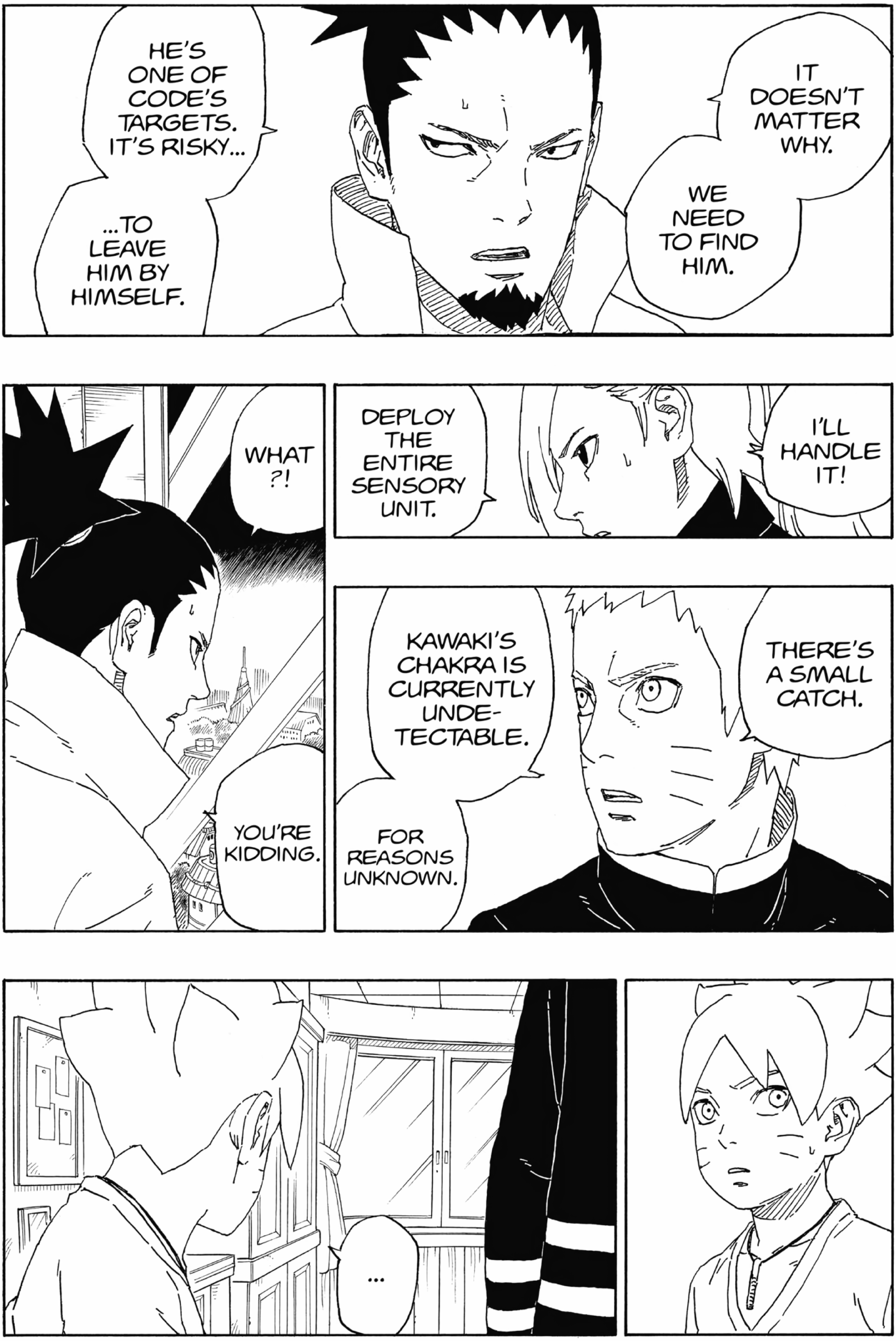

ZLRP
!
YO, KAWAKI.
LONG TIME NO SEE.
YOU GAIN WEIGHT?

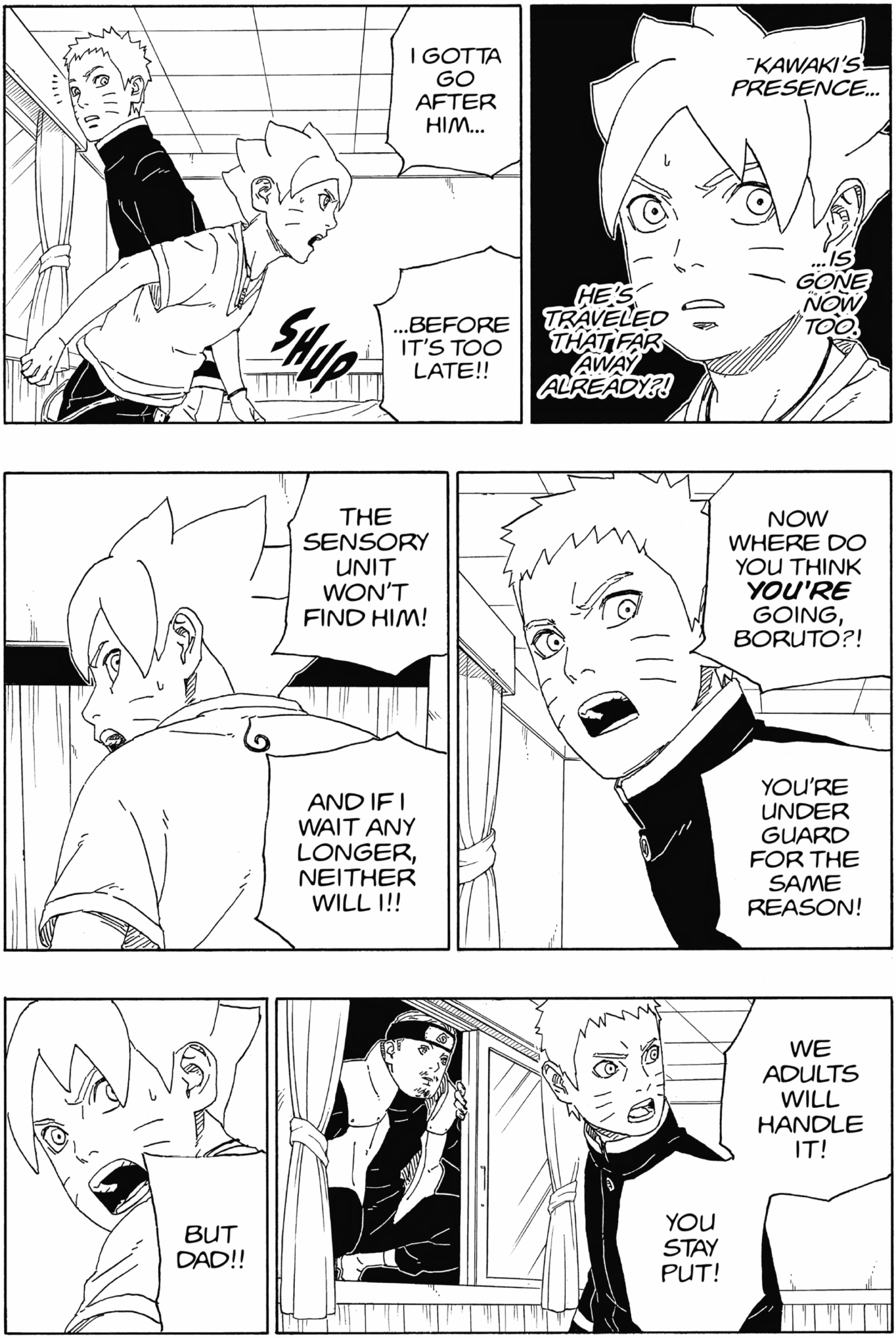

YOU SAID HE'S ERASED HIS CHAKRA?
HOW THE HECK IS HE DOING IT?
I DON'T REALLY KNOW, BUT...
...THAT'S HOW HE MANAGED TO SLIP OUT!
WE NEED TO GO AFTER HIM!
...
BUT IF YOU'RE RIGHT...
HOW COME YOU'RE ABLE TO PERCEIVE HIM...
...WHEN EVEN THE SENSORY UNIT CAN'T?
...
I, UH...
I'M NOT SURE, MYSELF...
I HOPE I'M WRONG, BUT...
...YOU BETTER NOT BE PLOTTING SOMETHING WITH KAWAKI.
WHAT THE?!
FOR REAL?
YOU'RE DOUBTING ME?!

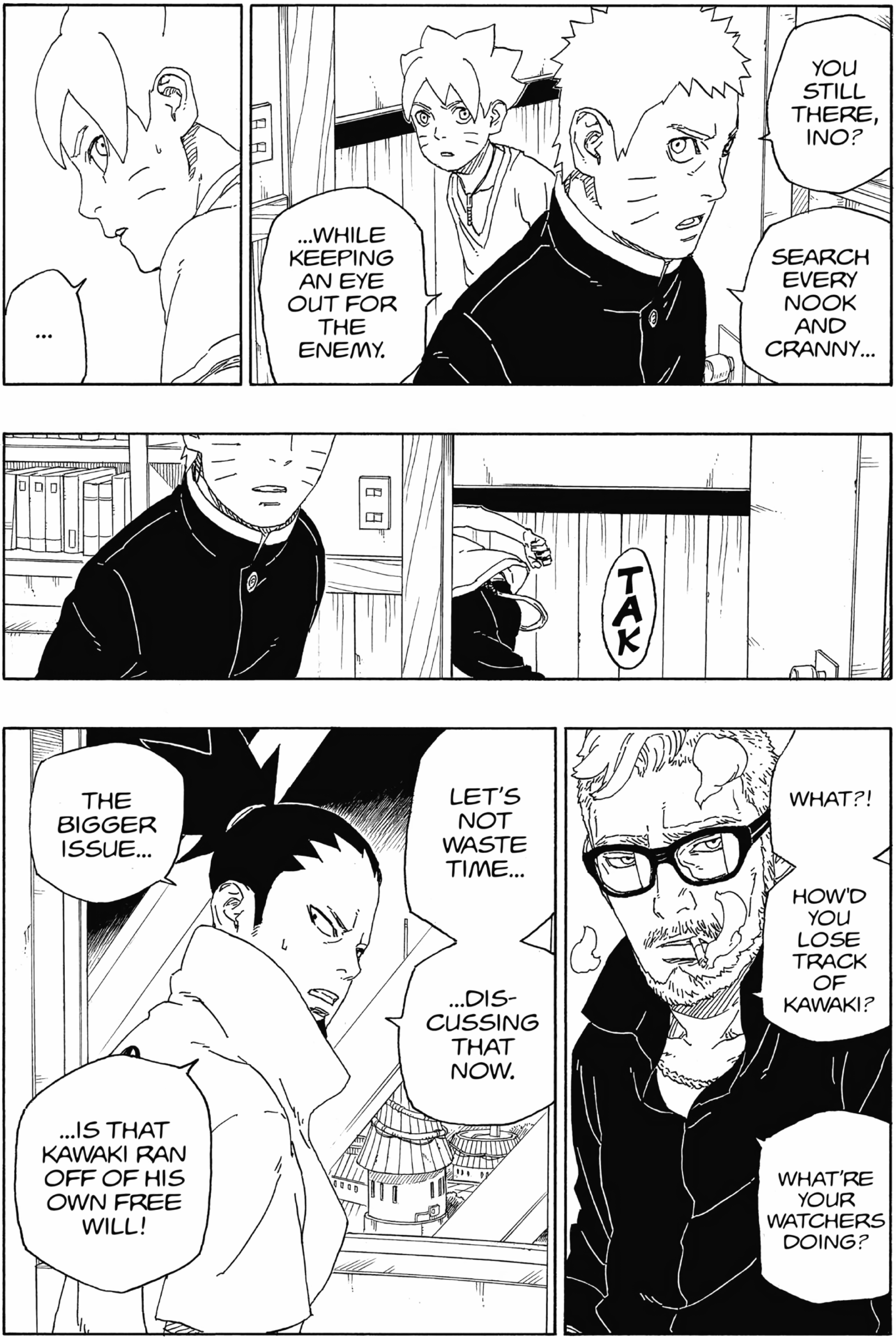

NOT EXACTLY, BUT...
YOU **WERE** COMPLAINING ABOUT HOW STRESSFUL BEING WATCHED WAS.
WELL...
I WASN'T LYING ABOUT THAT, BUT...
GACHK
THE DOPPEL-GANGER'S GONE!
THAT BASTARD!!

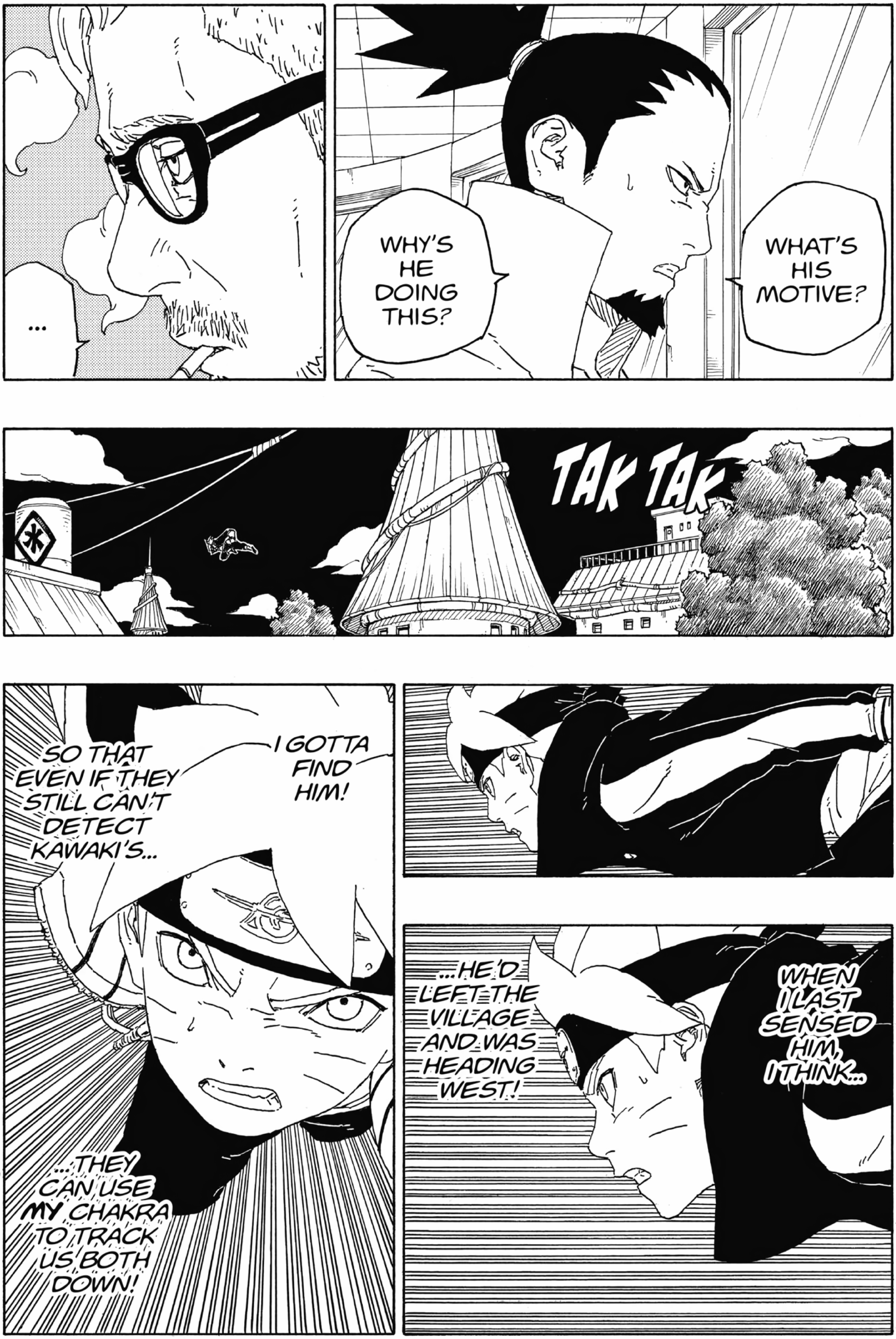

TMP
LORD SEVENTH!
KAWAKI'S CHAKRA SIGNATURE HAS SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED!
I SWEAR HE WAS HERE UNTIL JUST NOW.
...
WHAT...?
...
THAT WAS A SHADOW DOPPELGANGER!
YOU WERE TOTALLY TRICKED, MISTER!

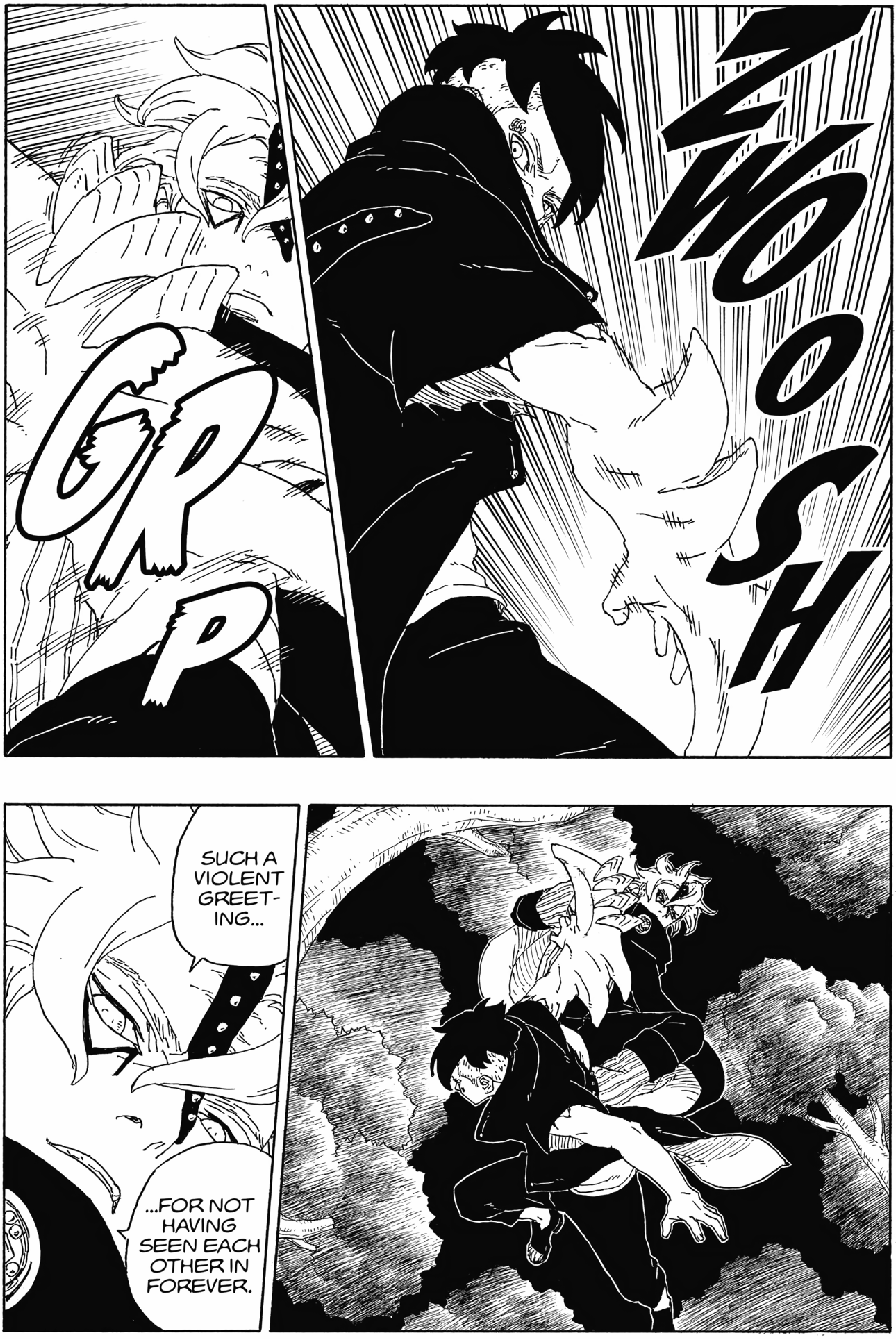

KAWAKI'S M.I.A.?
WHADDAYA MEAN? WHAT HAPPENED?
IS IT CODE'S DOING?!
...
I DUNNO, BUT ACCORDING TO BORUTO...
...KAWAKI RAN OFF ON HIS OWN...
...SLIPPING PAST THE WATCHER.
SORRY...
HE SLIPPED OUT RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE.
THIS WAS MY FAILURE.
I DON'T GET IT.
HE SEEMED TO BE ACCLIMATING SO WELL.
WHERE COULD HE BE HEADED?

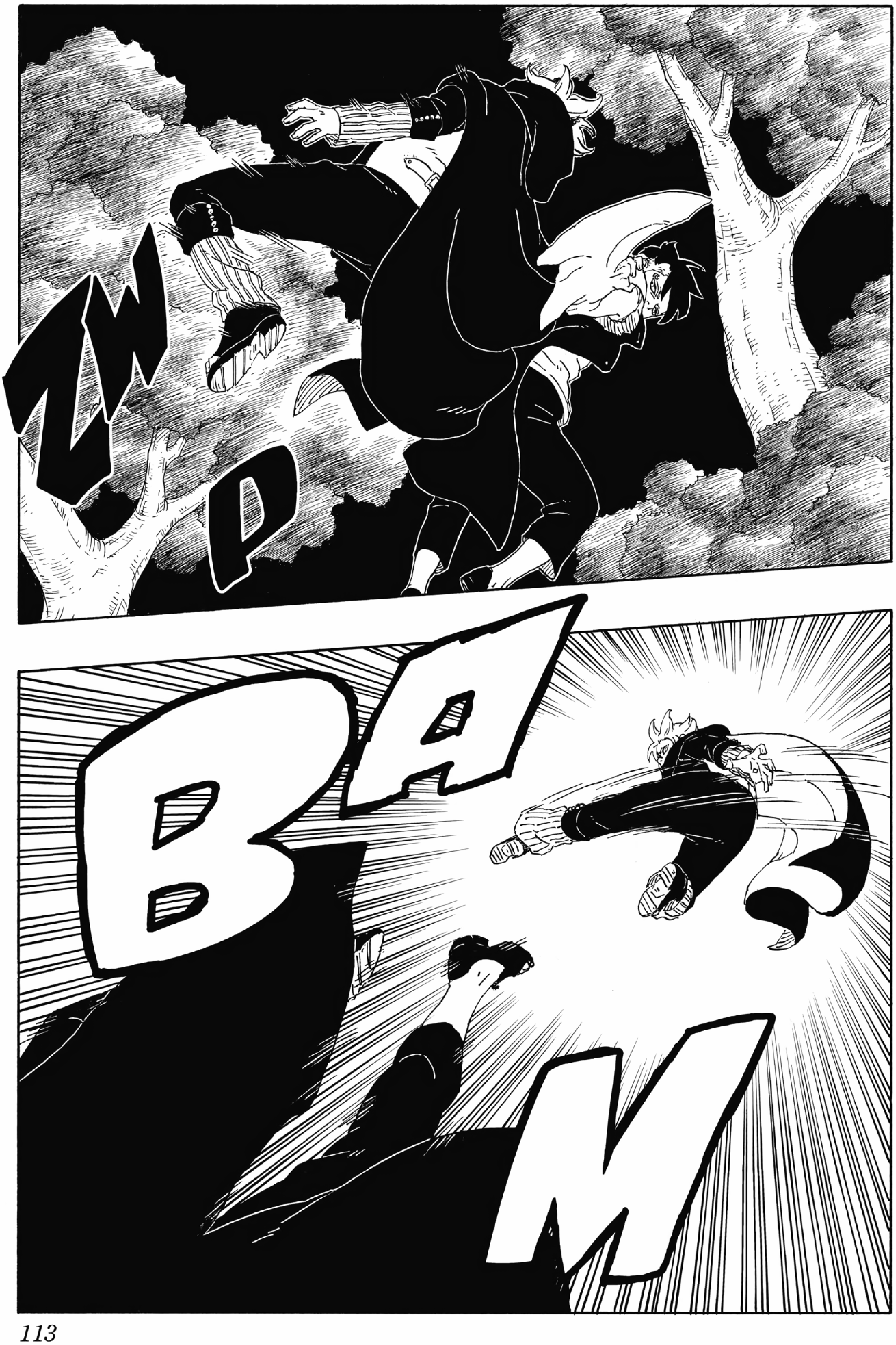

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHY.
WE NEED TO FIND HIM.
HE'S ONE OF CODE'S TARGETS. IT'S RISKY...
...TO LEAVE HIM BY HIMSELF.
I'LL HANDLE IT!
DEPLOY THE ENTIRE SENSORY UNIT.
THERE'S A SMALL CATCH.
KAWAKI'S CHAKRA IS CURRENTLY UNDETECTABLE.
FOR REASONS UNKNOWN.
WHAT?!
YOU'RE KIDDING.
...

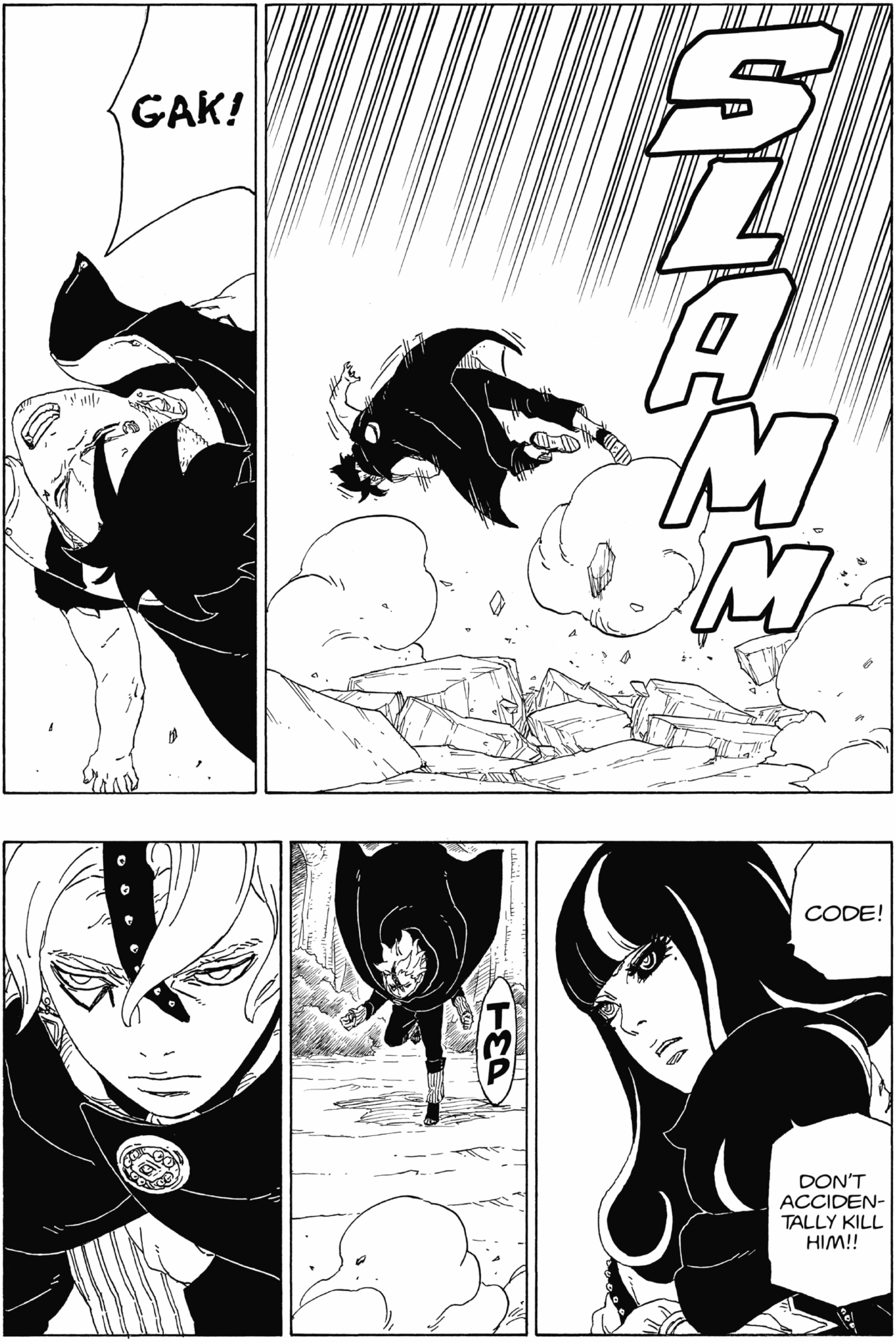

KAWAKI'S PRESENCE...
...IS GONE NOW TOO.
HE'S TRAVELED THAT FAR AWAY ALREADY?!
I GOTTA GO AFTER HIM...
...BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!!
SHUP
NOW WHERE DO YOU THINK **YOU'RE** GOING, BORUTO?!
YOU'RE UNDER GUARD FOR THE SAME REASON!
THE SENSORY UNIT WON'T FIND HIM!
AND IF I WAIT ANY LONGER, NEITHER WILL I!!
WE ADULTS WILL HANDLE IT!
YOU STAY PUT!
BUT DAD!!

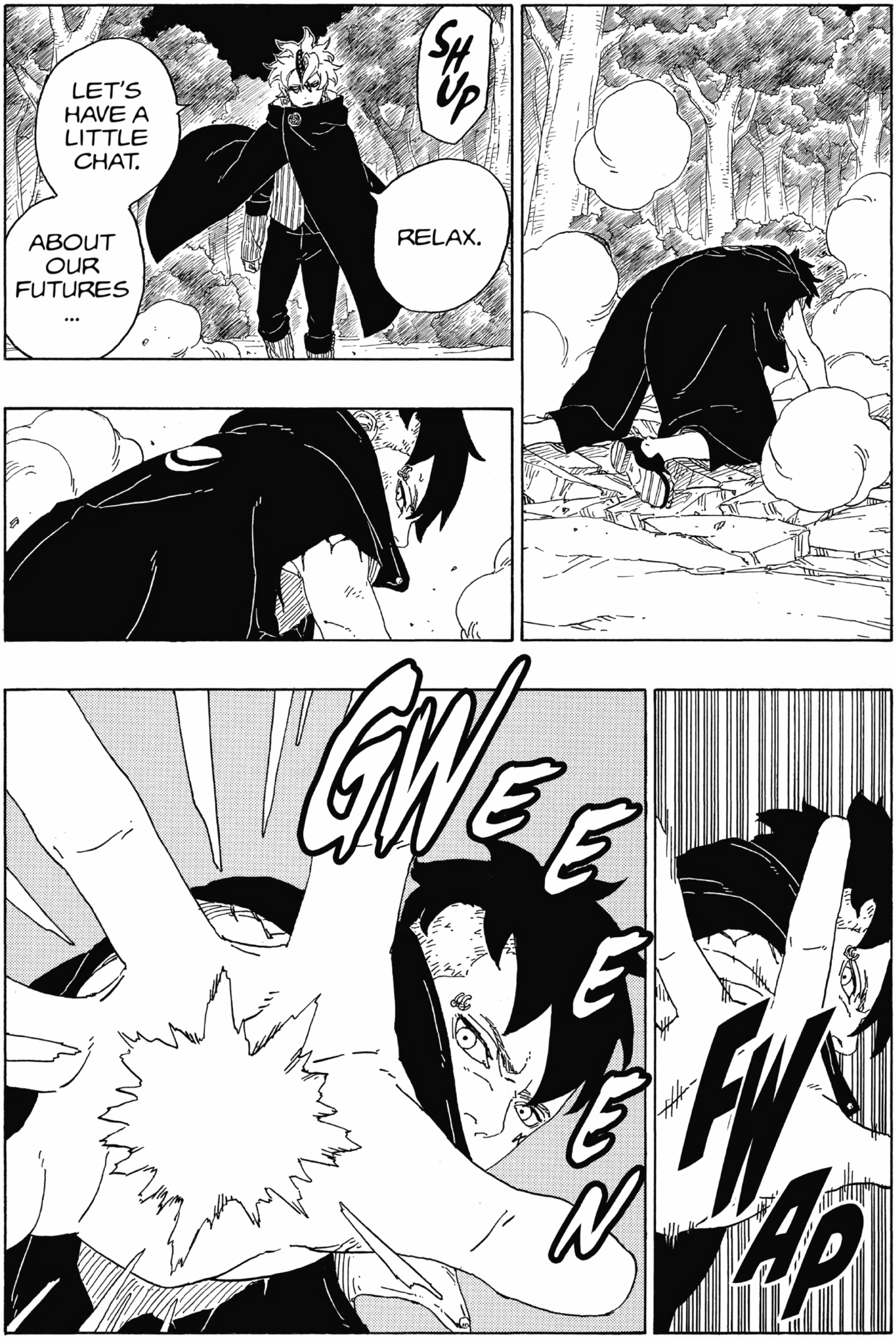

YOU STILL THERE, INO?
SEARCH EVERY NOOK AND CRANNY...
...WHILE KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR THE ENEMY.
...
TAK
WHAT?!
HOW'D YOU LOSE TRACK OF KAWAKI?
WHAT'RE YOUR WATCHERS DOING?
LET'S NOT WASTE TIME...
...DISCUSSING THAT NOW.
THE BIGGER ISSUE...
...IS THAT KAWAKI RAN OFF OF HIS OWN FREE WILL!

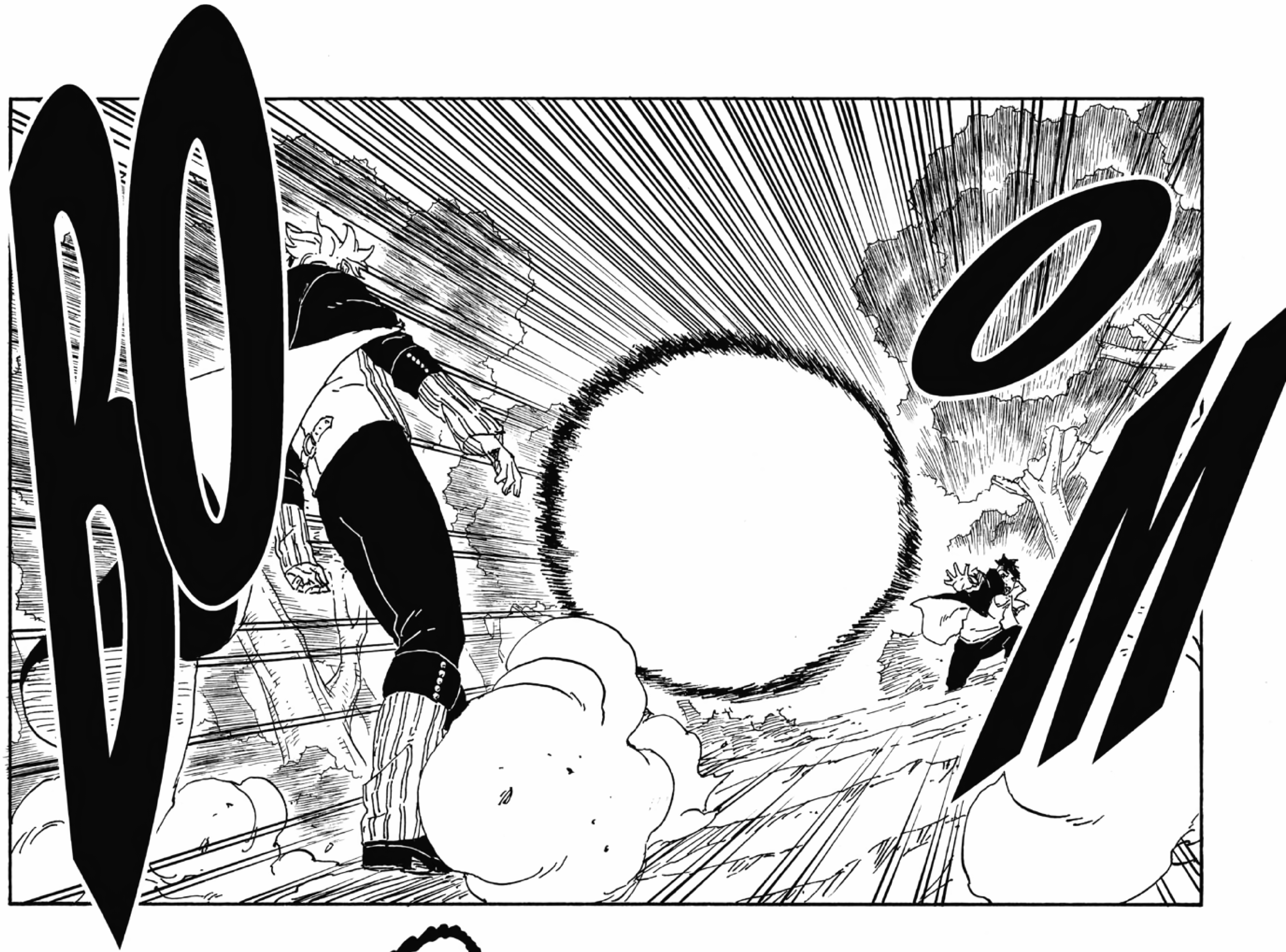

WHAT'S HIS MOTIVE?
WHY'S HE DOING THIS?
...
TAK TAK
WHEN I LAST SENSED HIM, I THINK...
...HE'D LEFT THE VILLAGE AND WAS HEADING WEST!
I GOTTA FIND HIM!
SO THAT EVEN IF THEY STILL CAN'T DETECT KAWAKI'S...
...THEY CAN USE **MY** CHAKRA TO TRACK US BOTH DOWN!

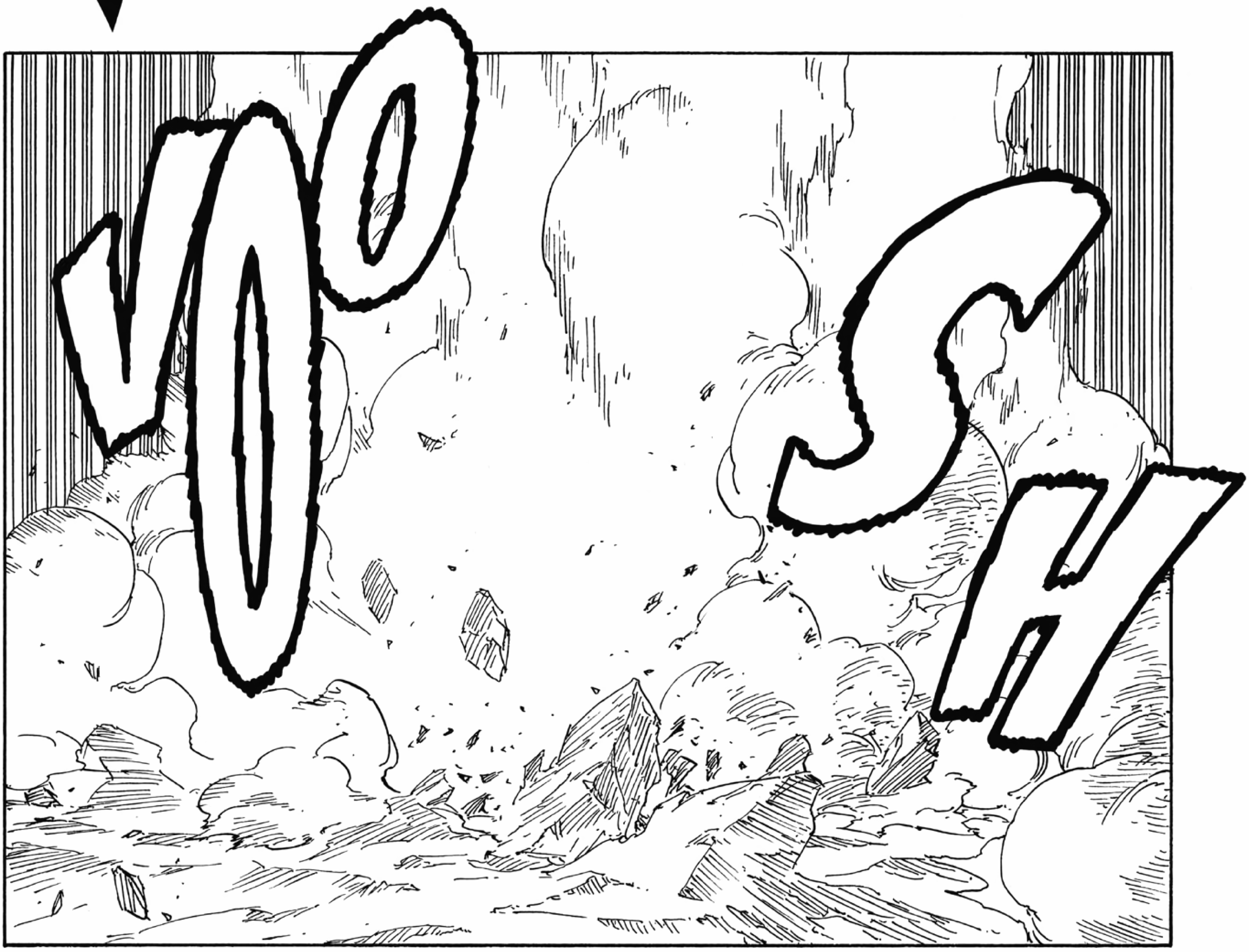

WHOOSH
GRP
SUCH A VIOLENT GREETING...
...FOR NOT HAVING SEEN EACH OTHER IN FOREVER.

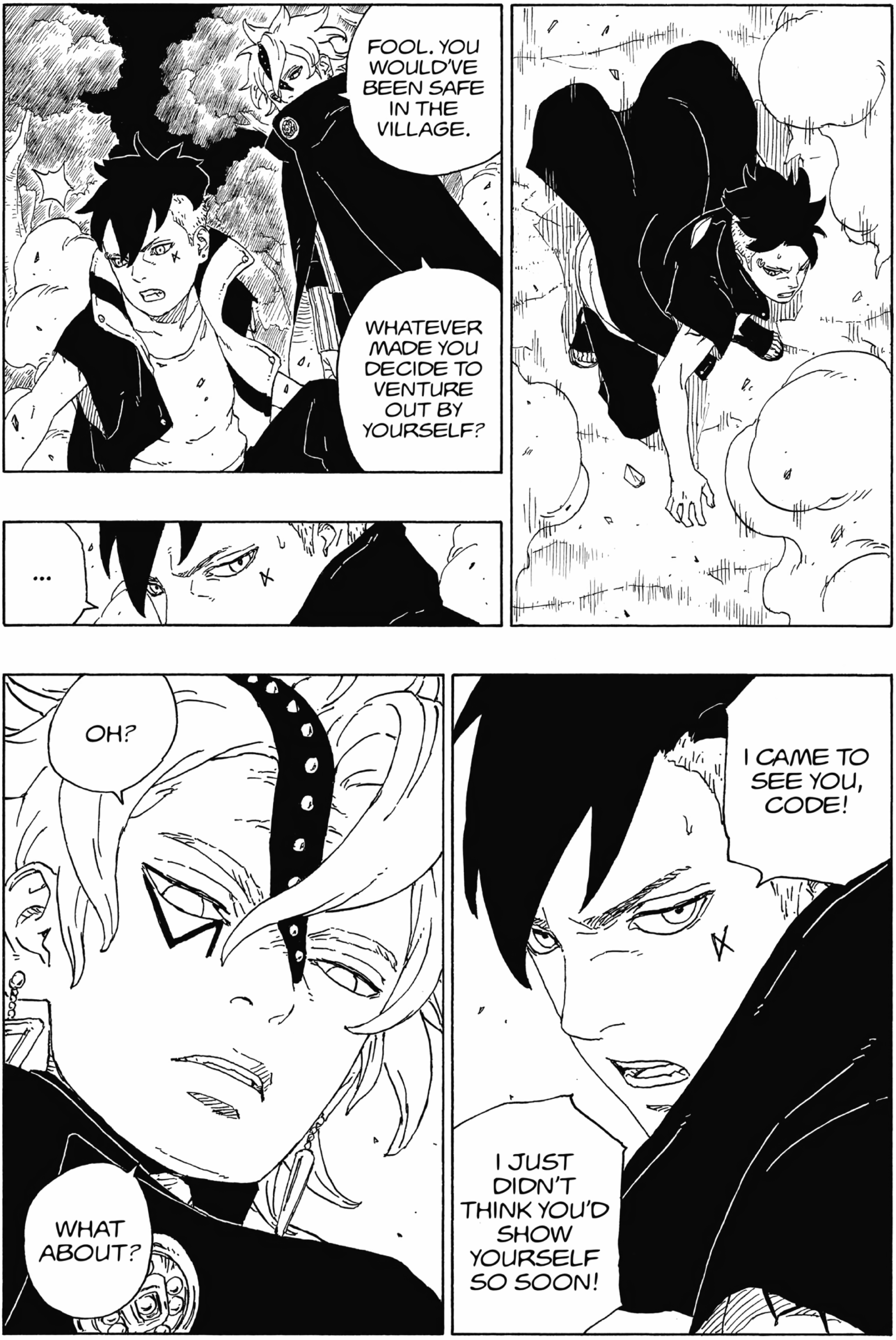

ZWP
BAM

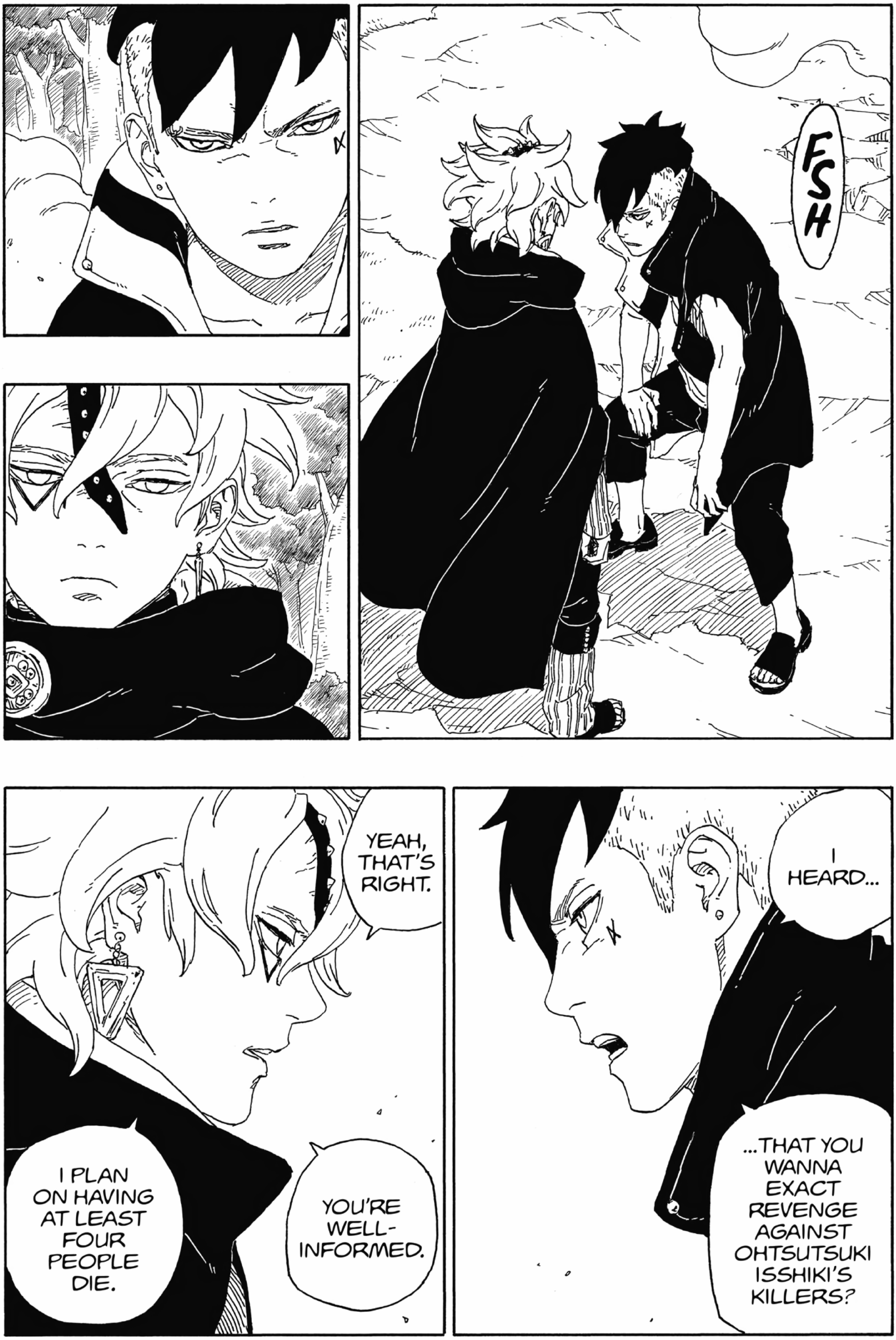

SLAMM
GAK!
CODE!
DON'T ACCIDENTALLY KILL HIM!!
TMP

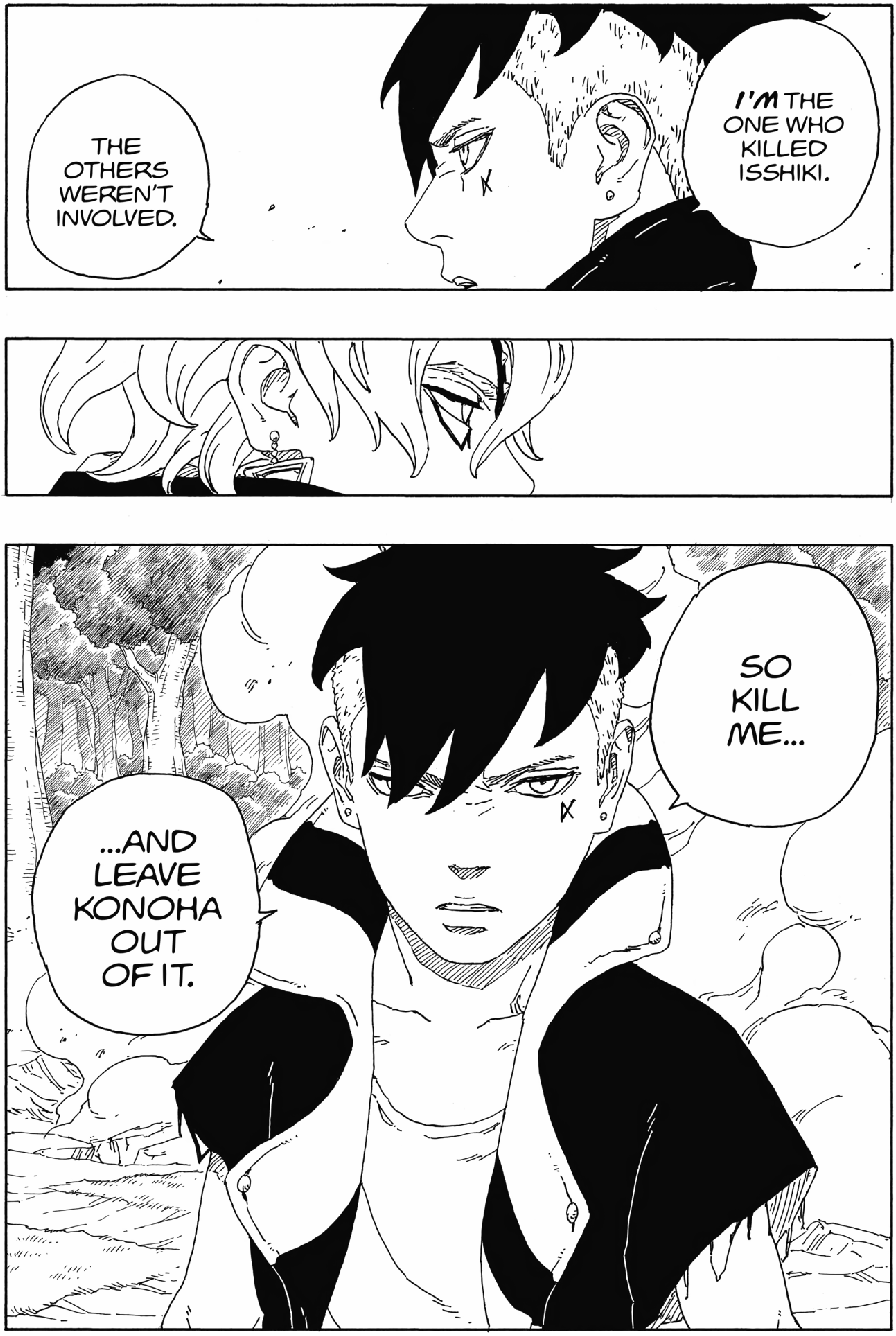

SHUP
RELAX.
LET'S HAVE A LITTLE CHAT.
ABOUT OUR FUTURES ...
FWAP
GWEEEEEN

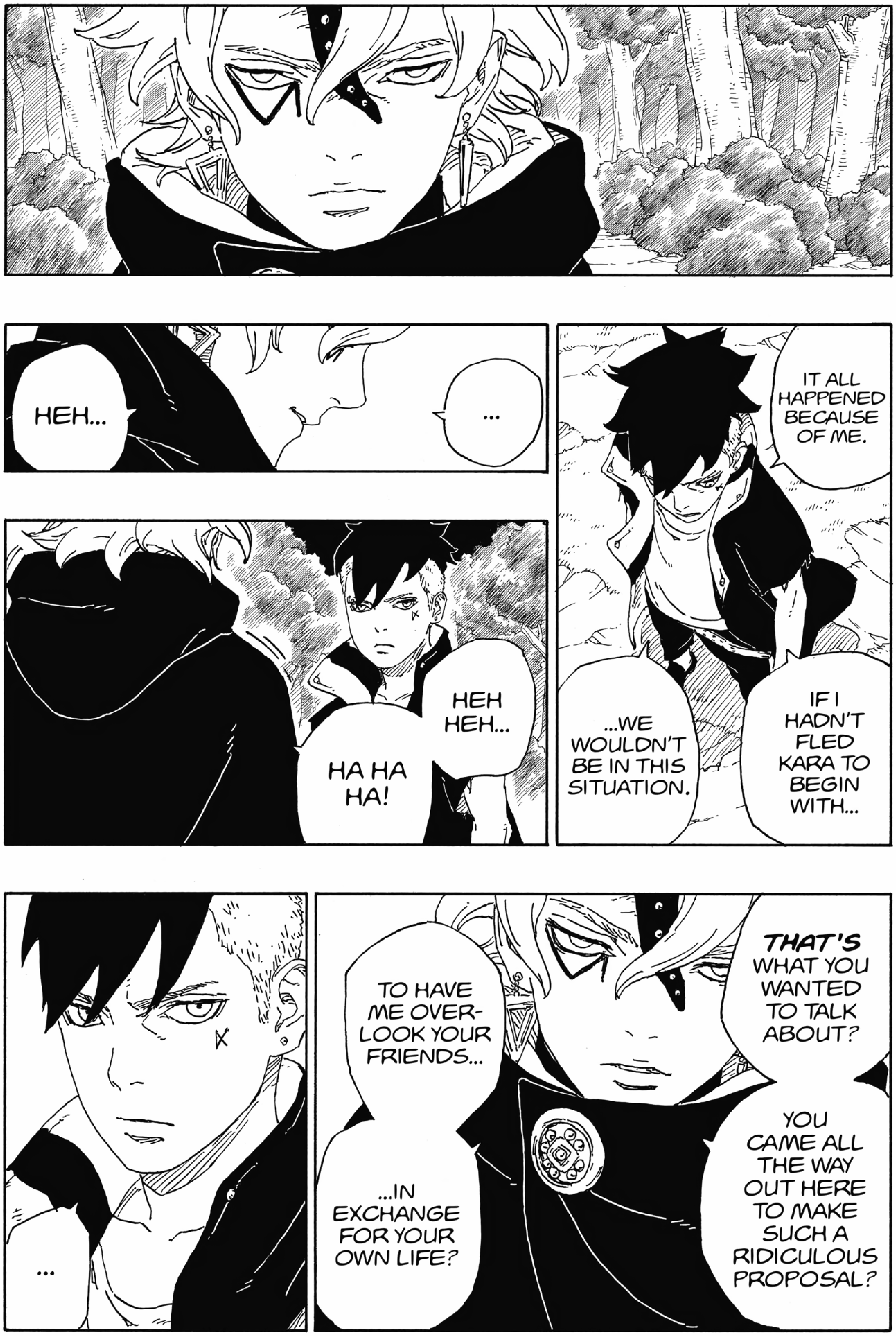

BOOOM

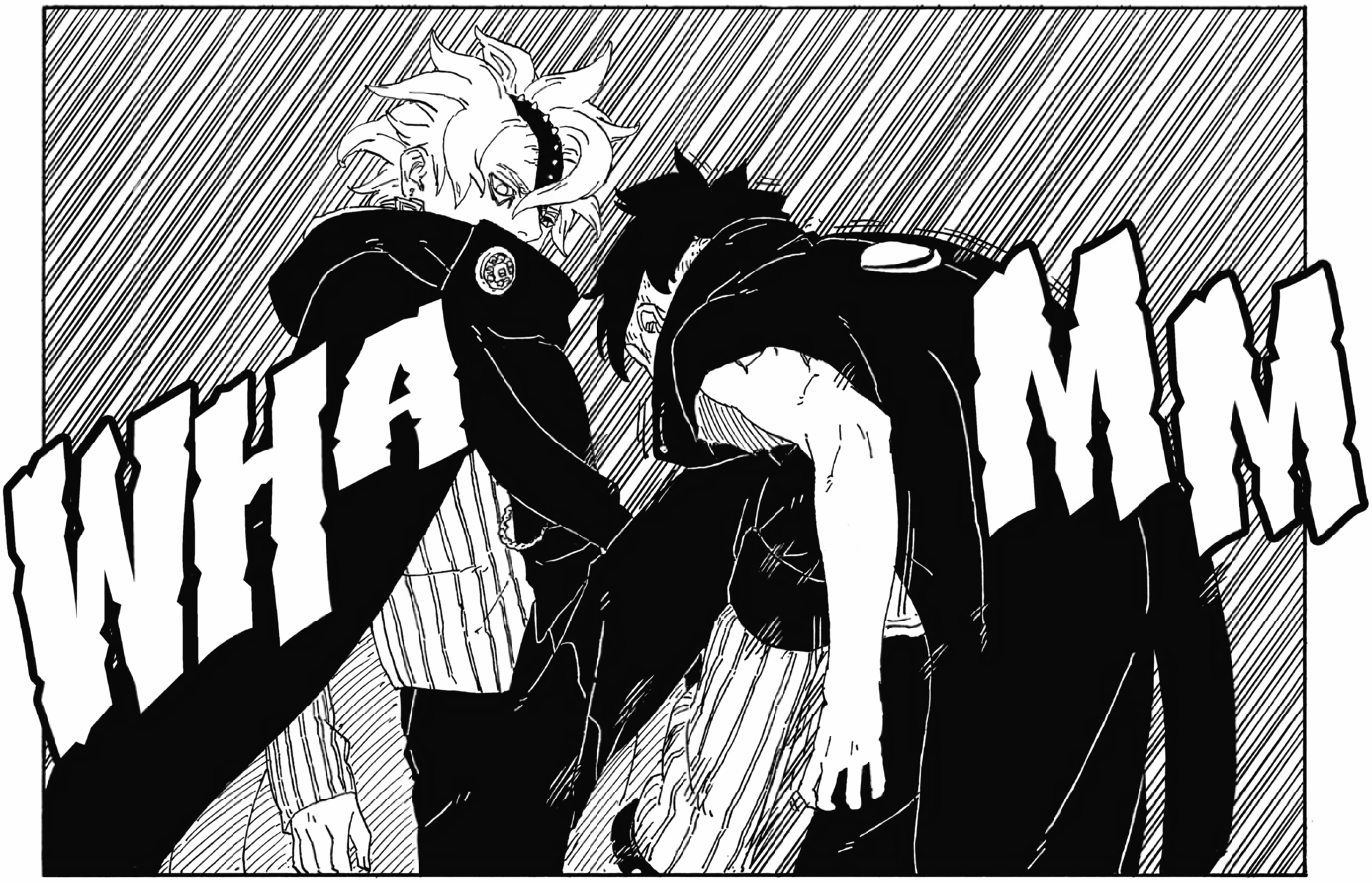

SWOOSH

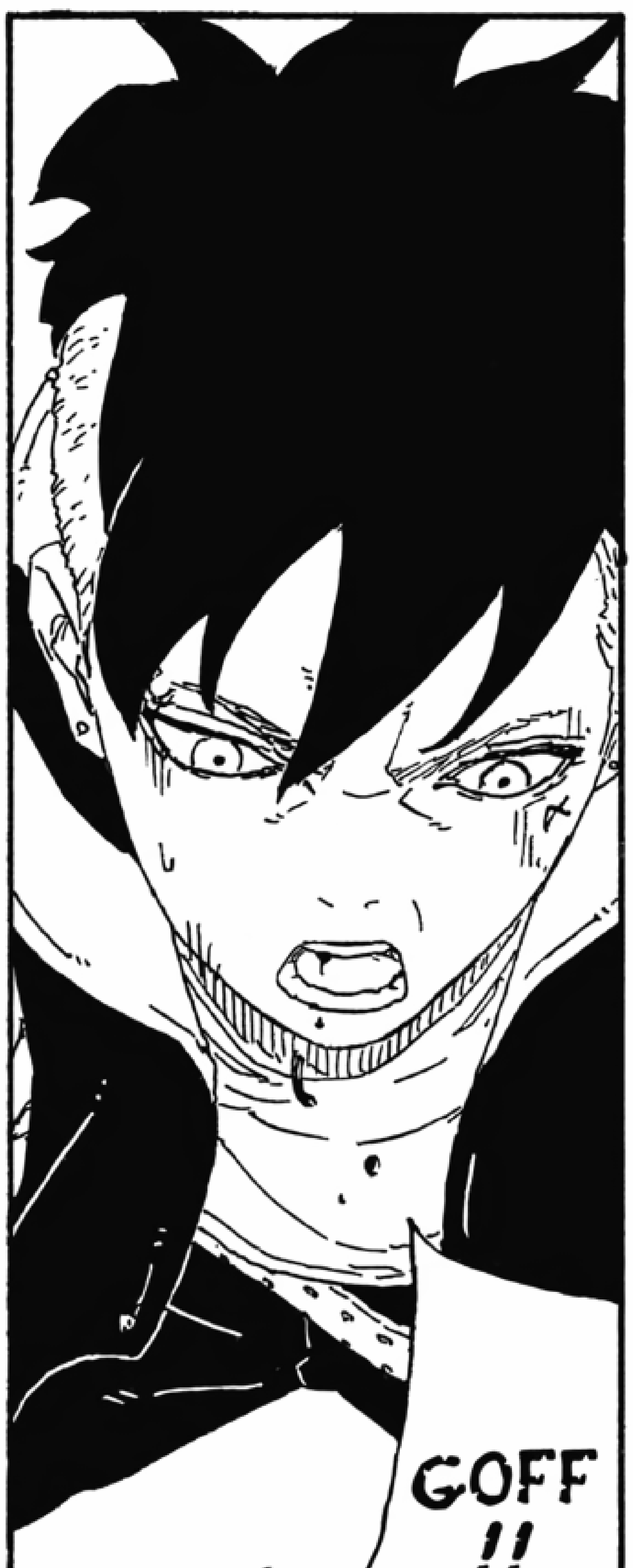

FOOL. YOU WOULD'VE BEEN SAFE IN THE VILLAGE.
WHATEVER MADE YOU DECIDE TO VENTURE OUT BY YOURSELF?
...
I CAME TO SEE YOU, CODE!
I JUST DIDN'T THINK YOU'D SHOW YOURSELF SO SOON!
OH?
WHAT ABOUT?

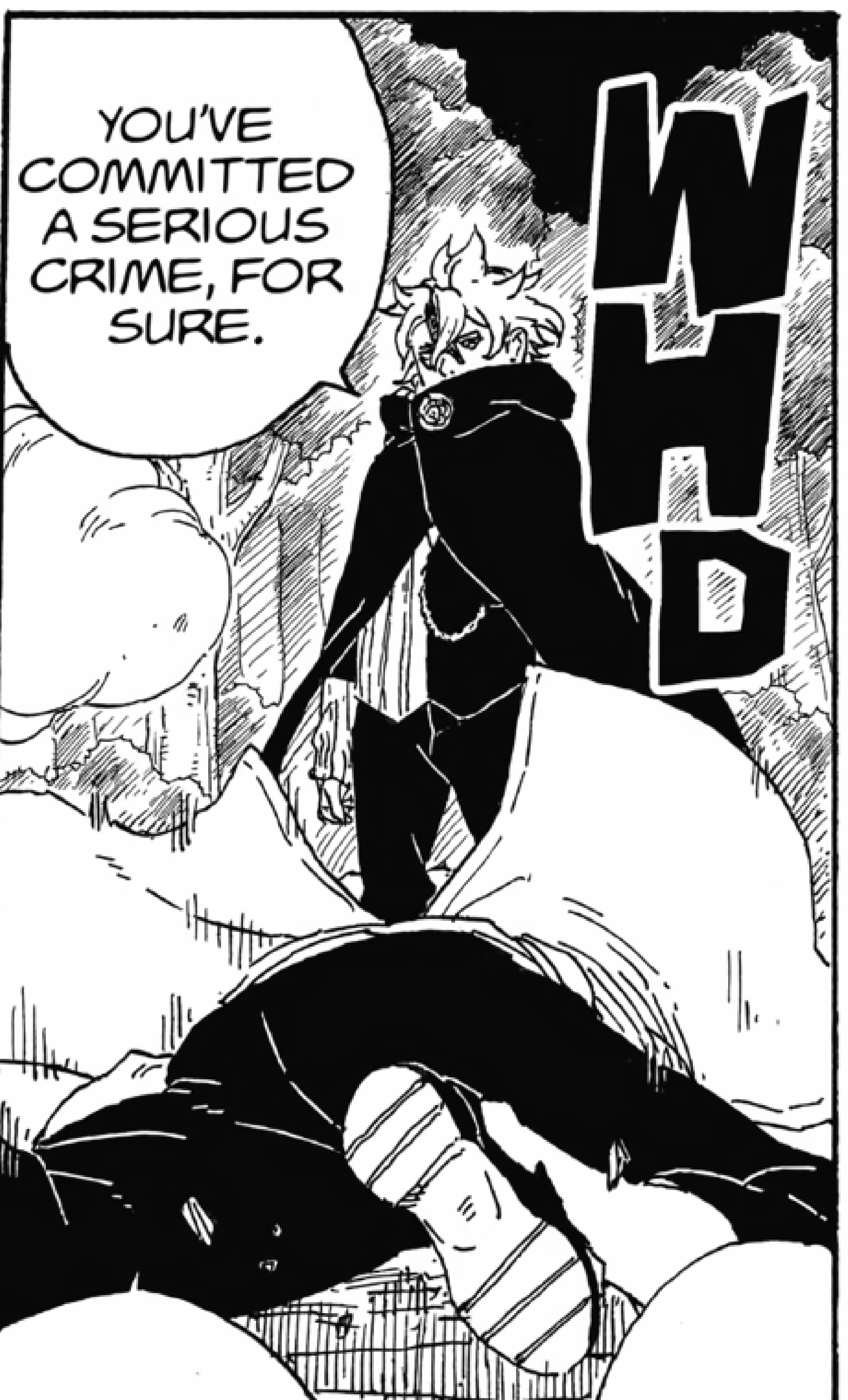

FSH
I HEARD...
...THAT YOU WANNA EXACT REVENGE AGAINST OHTSUTSUKI ISSHIKI'S KILLERS?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU'RE WELL-INFORMED.
I PLAN ON HAVING AT LEAST FOUR PEOPLE DIE.

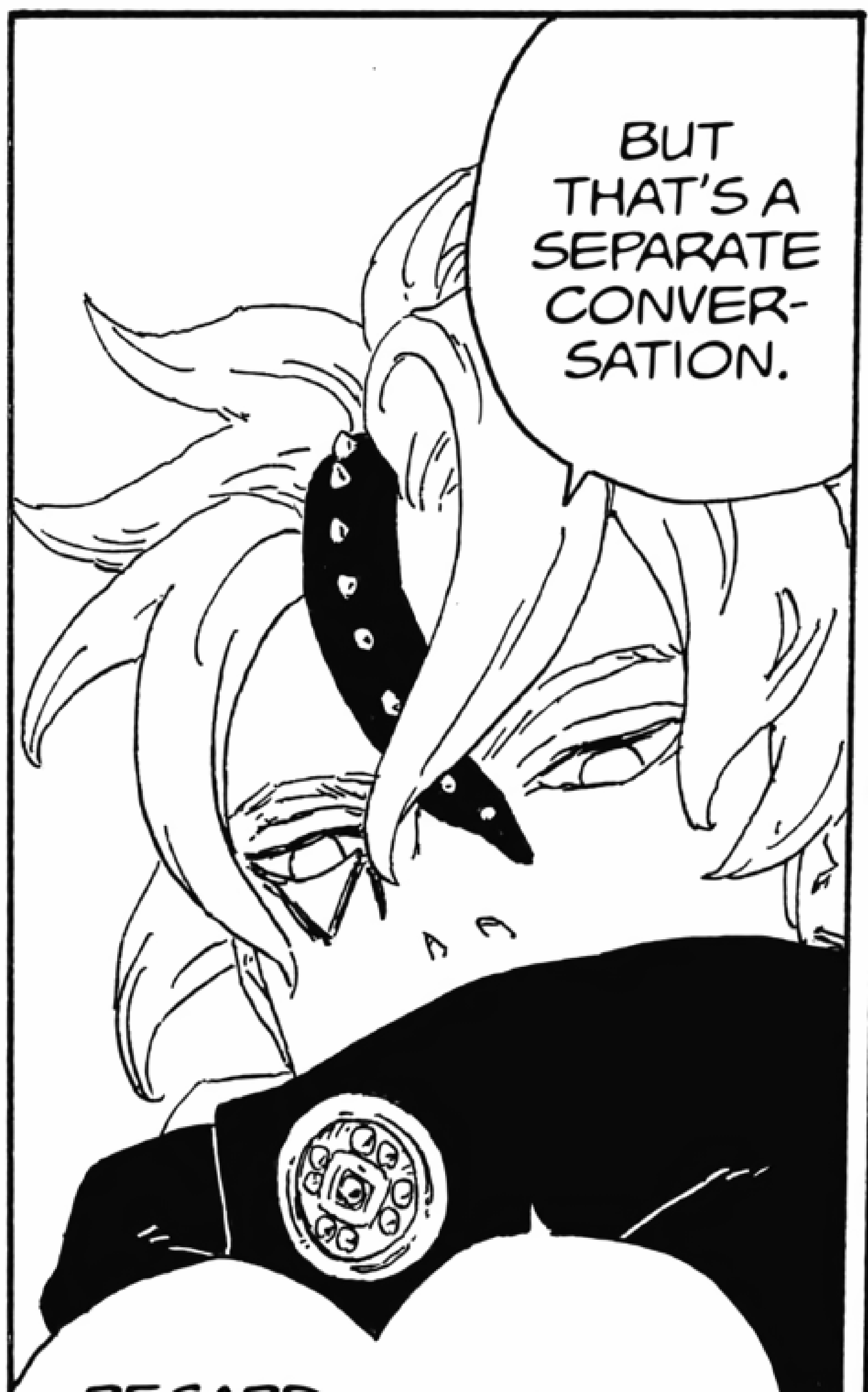

I'M THE ONE WHO KILLED ISSHIKI.
THE OTHERS WEREN'T INVOLVED.
SO KILL ME...
...AND LEAVE KONOHA OUT OF IT.

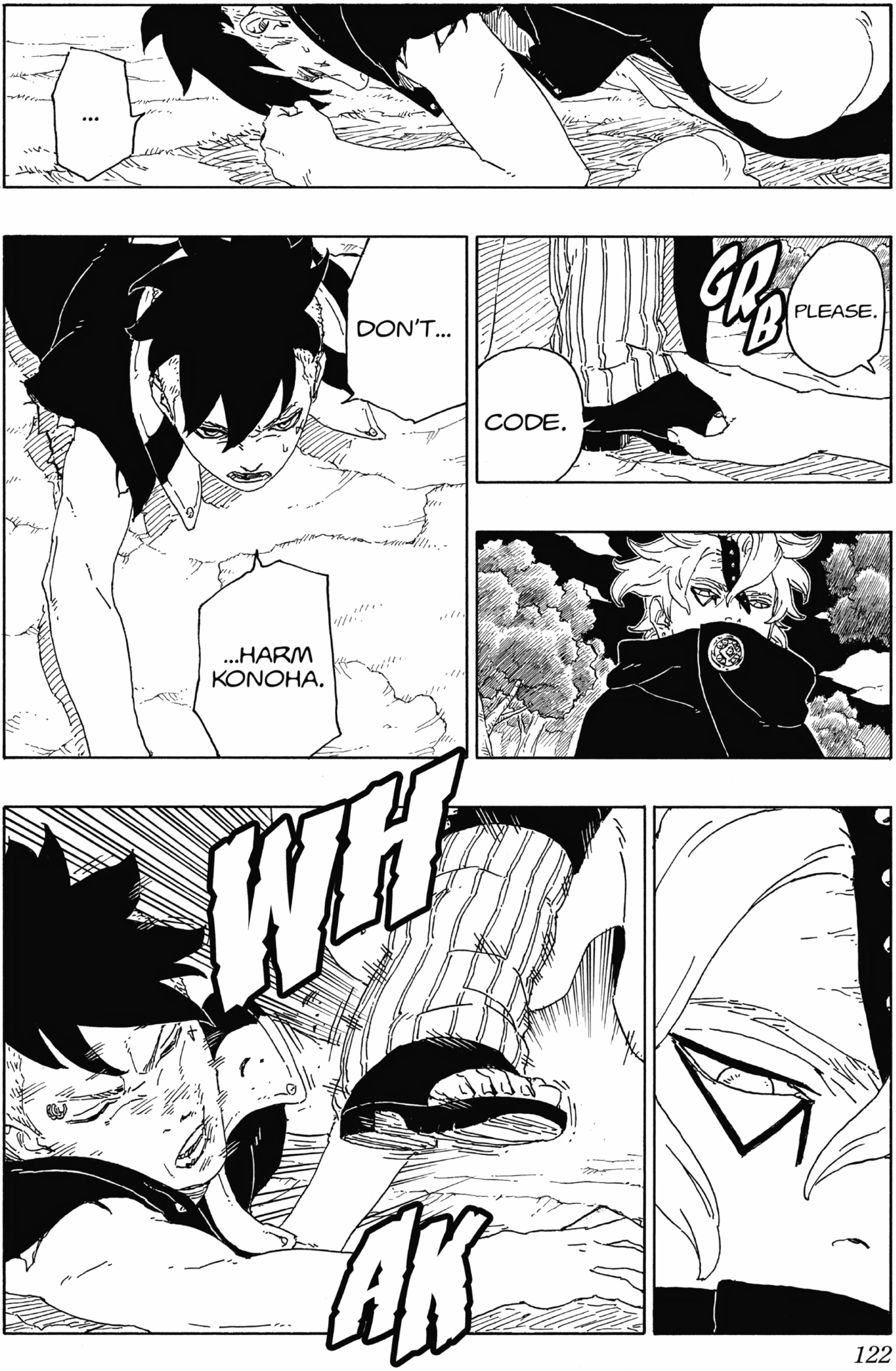

IT ALL HAPPENED BECAUSE OF ME.
IF I HADN'T FLED KARA TO BEGIN WITH...
...WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS SITUATION.
...
HEH...
HEH HEH...
HA HA HA!
THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO MAKE SUCH A RIDICULOUS PROPOSAL?
TO HAVE ME OVERLOOK YOUR FRIENDS...
...IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR OWN LIFE?
...

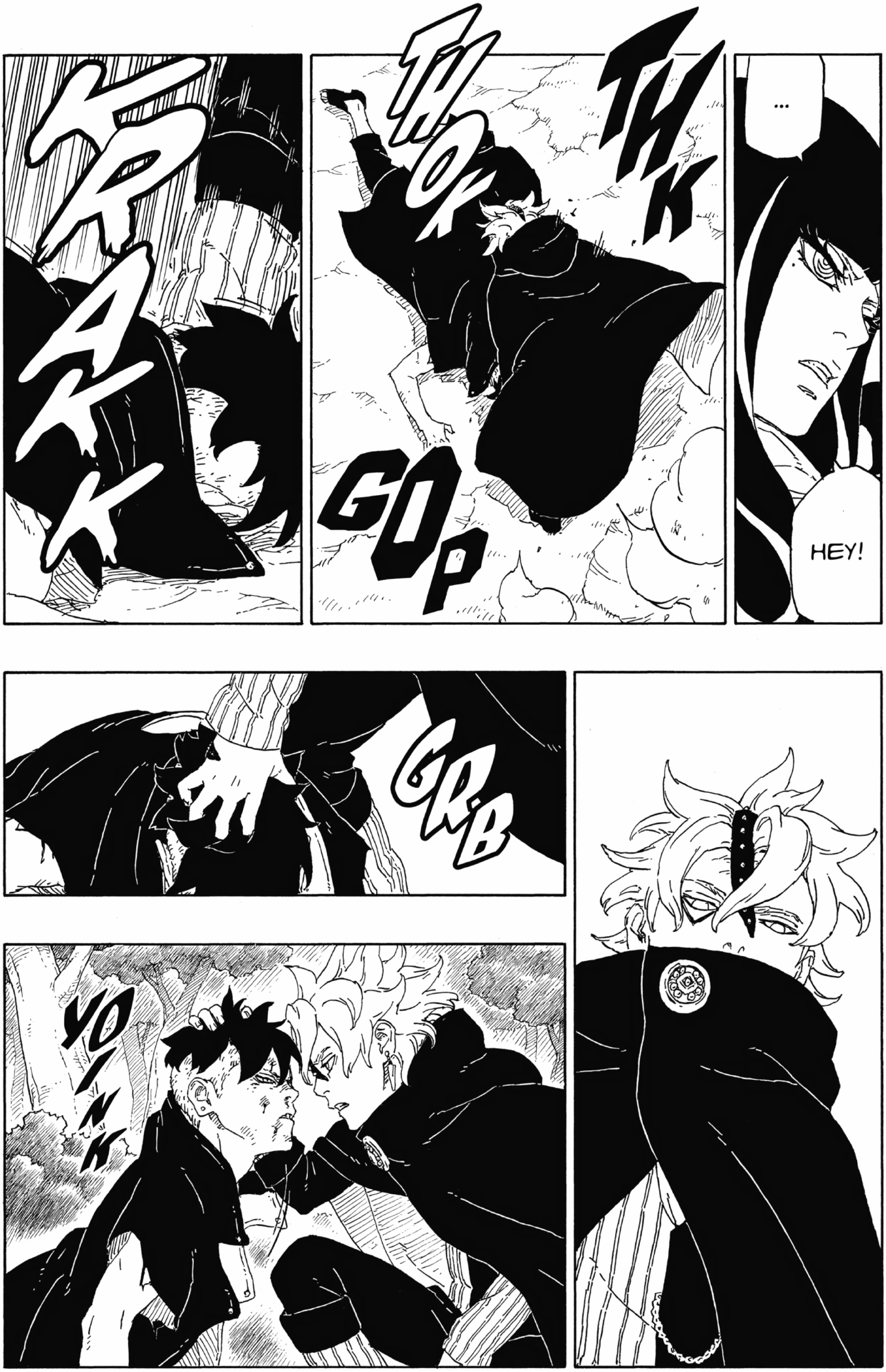

WHAMM

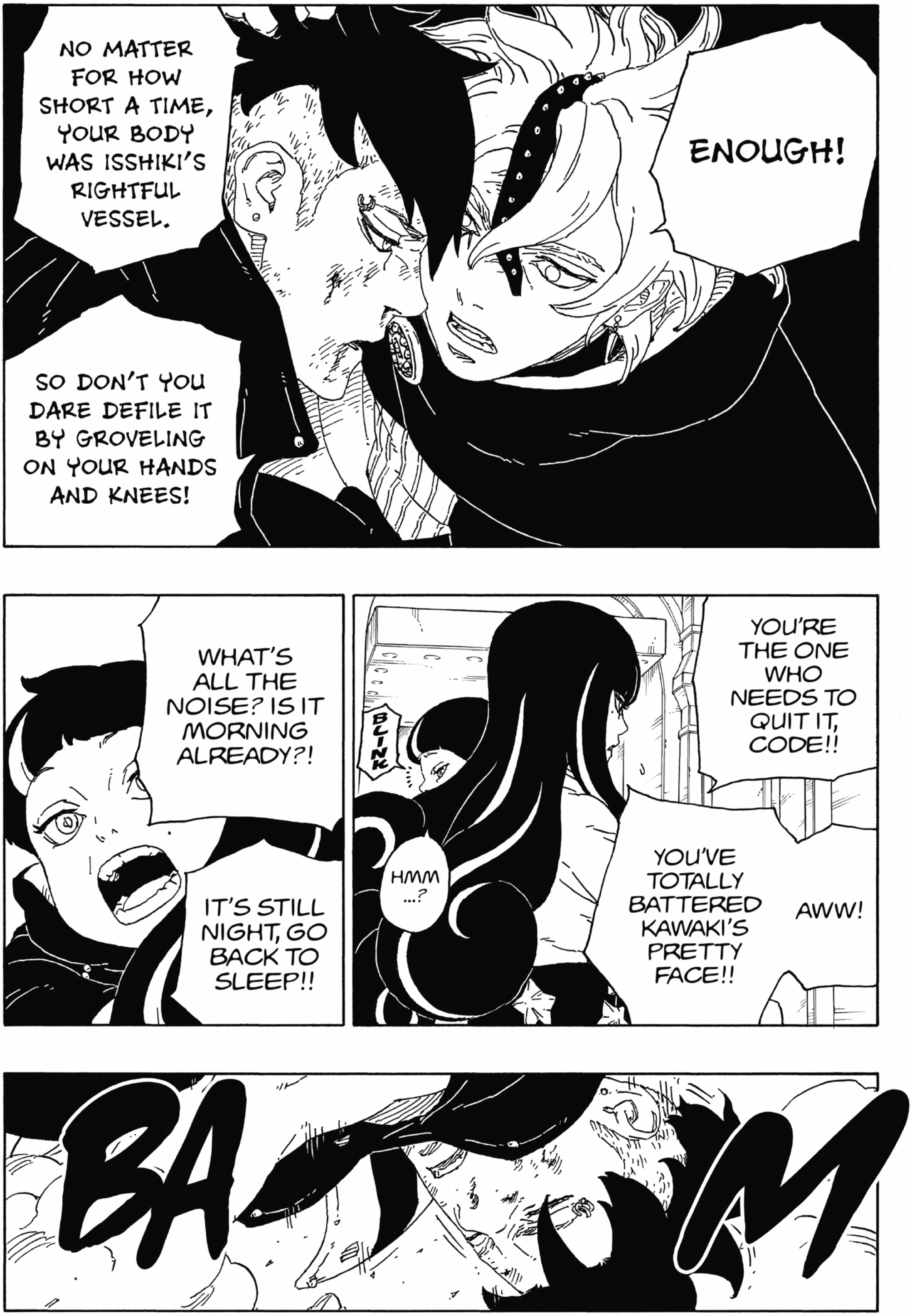

GOFF !!

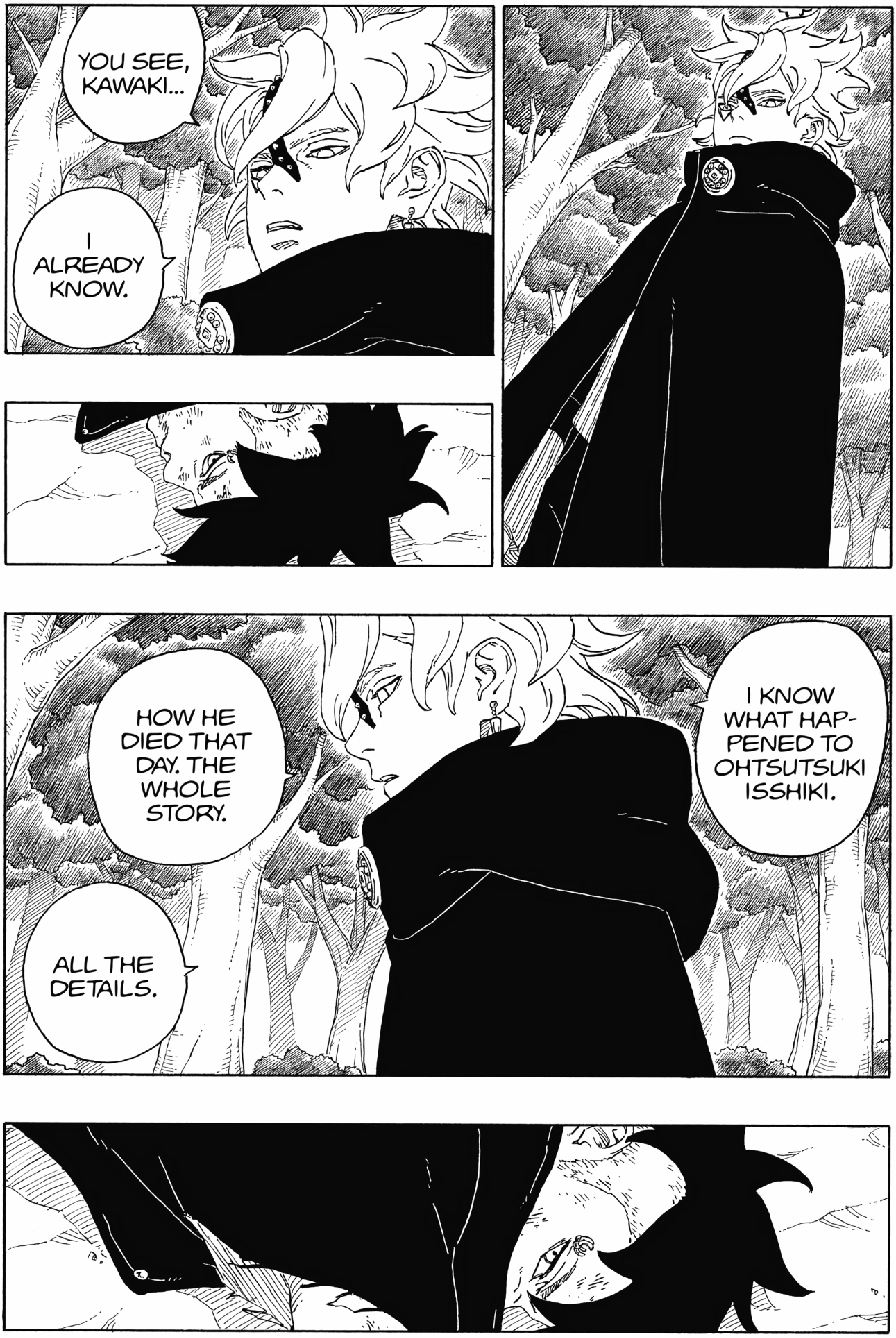

WHD
YOU'VE COMMITTED A SERIOUS CRIME, FOR SURE.
GRAVER THAN ANYONE ELSE.

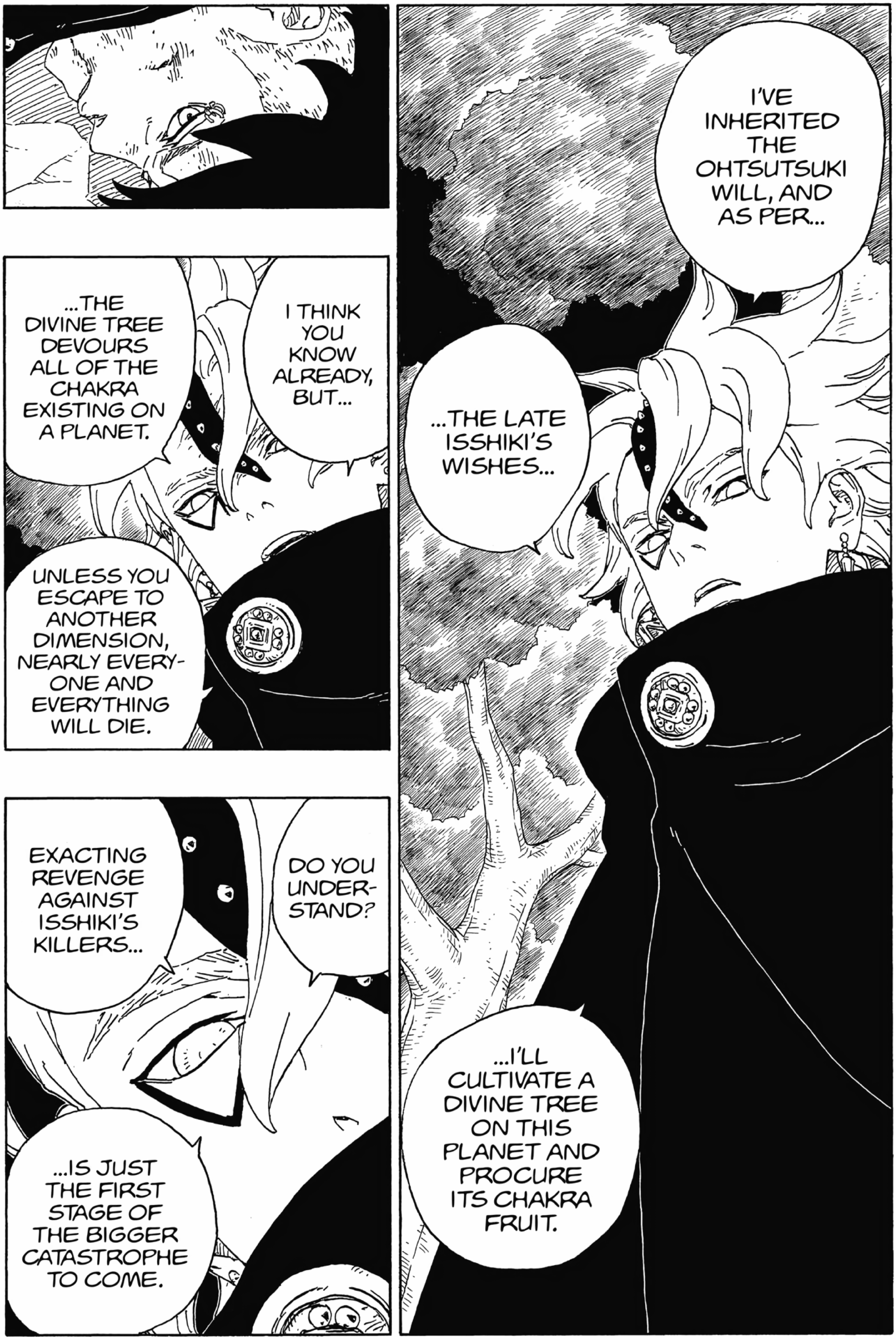

BUT THAT'S A SEPARATE CONVERSATION.
I'M KILLING EVERYONE INVOLVED IN ISSHIKI'S DEATH...
...REGARDLESS OF WHO OR HOW MANY THERE ARE.

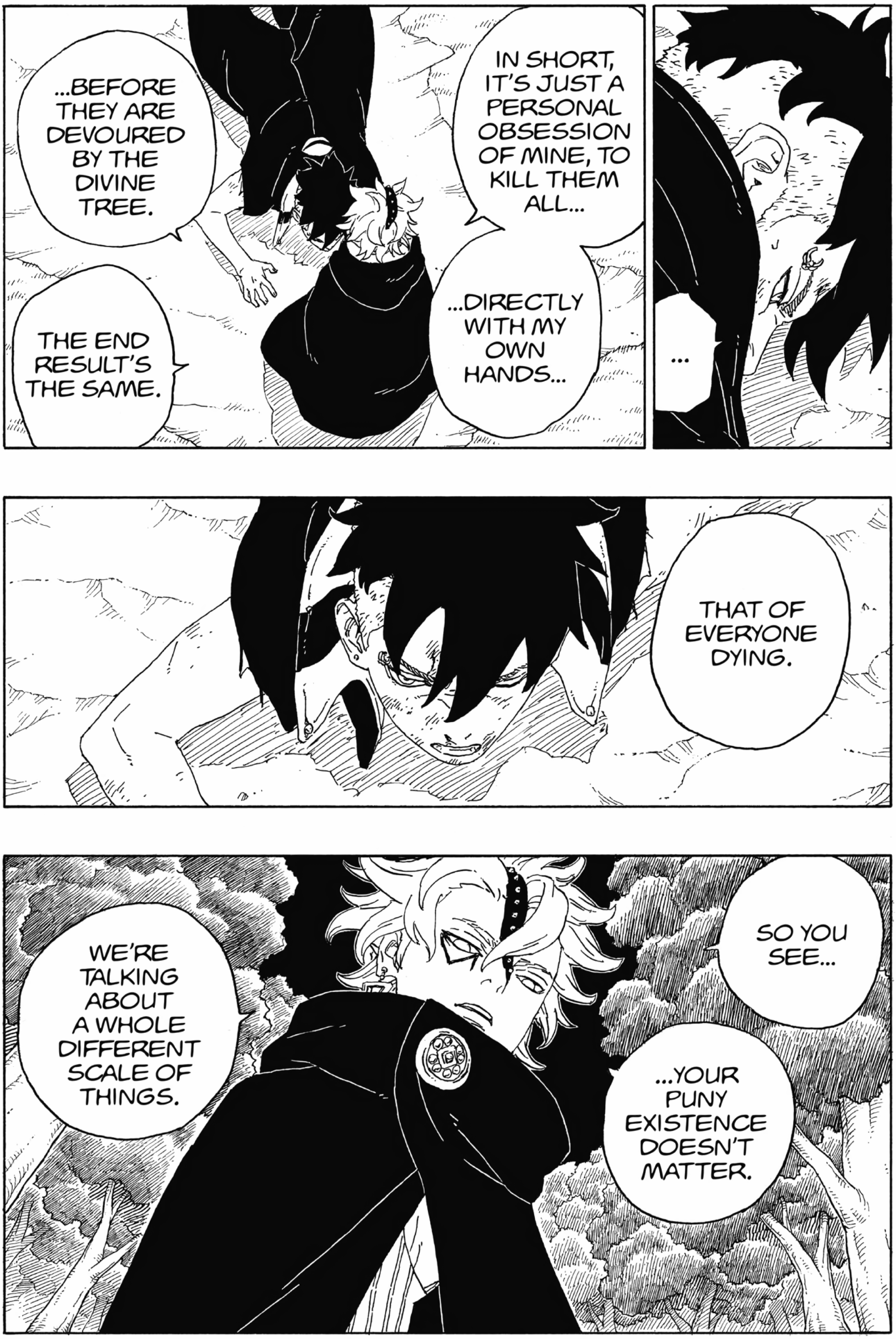

...
GRB
PLEASE.
CODE.
DON'T...
...HARM KONOHA.
WH
AK

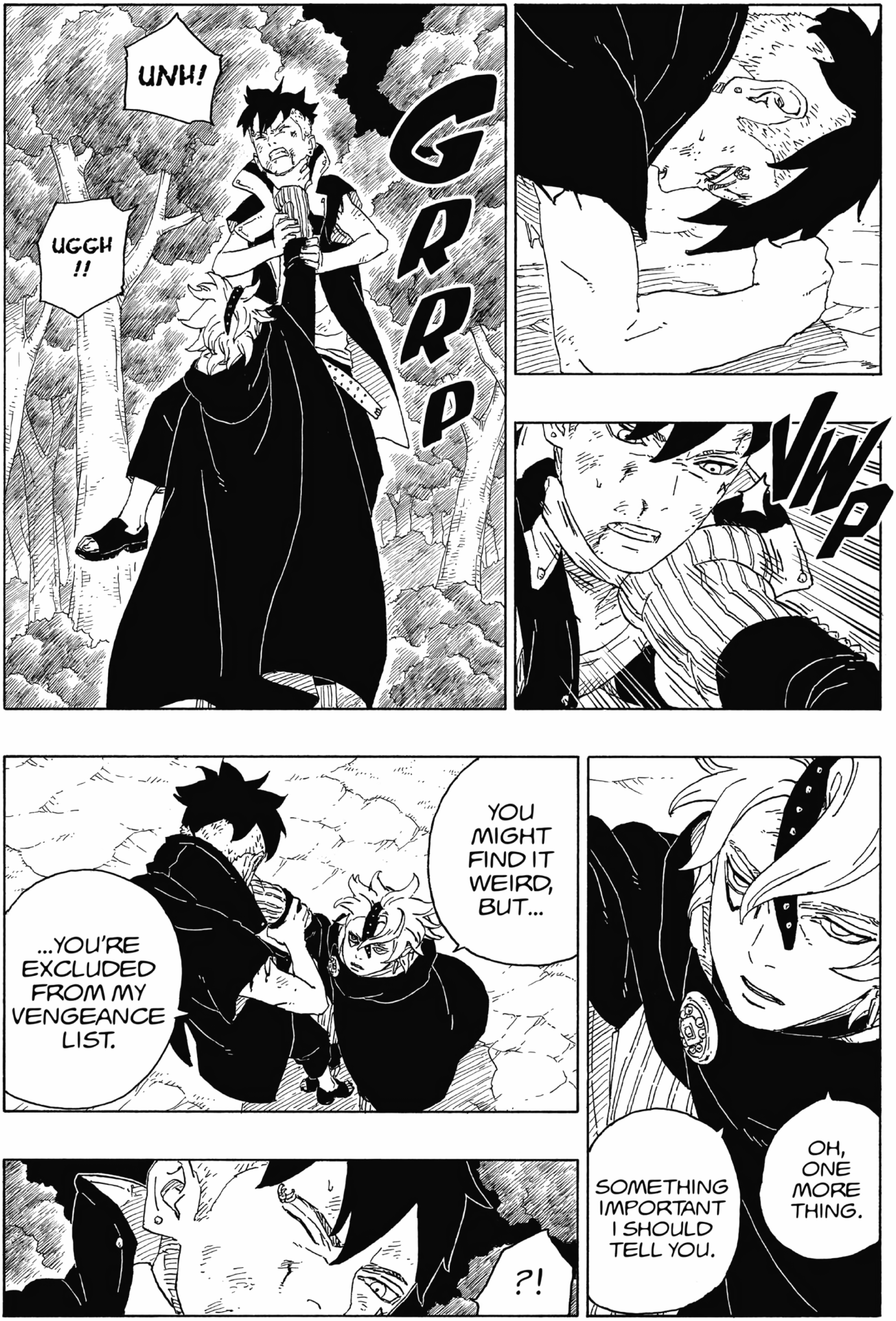

...
HEY!
THOK
THK
GOP
KRAK
GRAB
YOINK

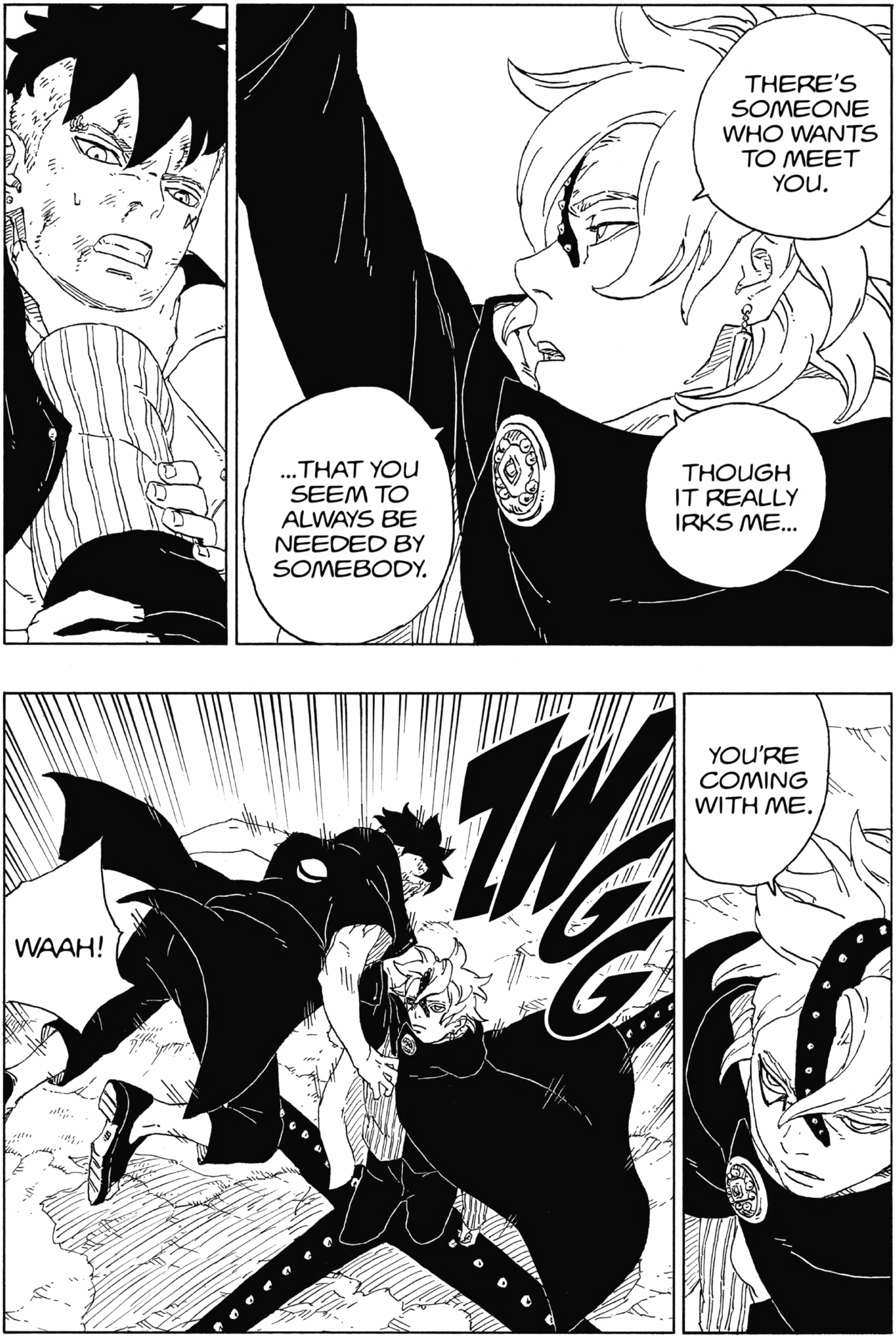

ENOUGH!
NO MATTER FOR HOW SHORT A TIME, YOUR BODY WAS ISSHIKI'S RIGHTFUL VESSEL.
SO DON'T YOU DARE DEFILE IT BY GROVELING ON YOUR HANDS AND KNEES!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO QUIT IT, CODE!!
AWW!
YOU'VE TOTALLY BATTERED KAWAKI'S PRETTY FACE!!
HMM ...?
BLINK
WHAT'S ALL THE NOISE? IS IT MORNING ALREADY?!
IT'S STILL NIGHT, GO BACK TO SLEEP!!
BA M

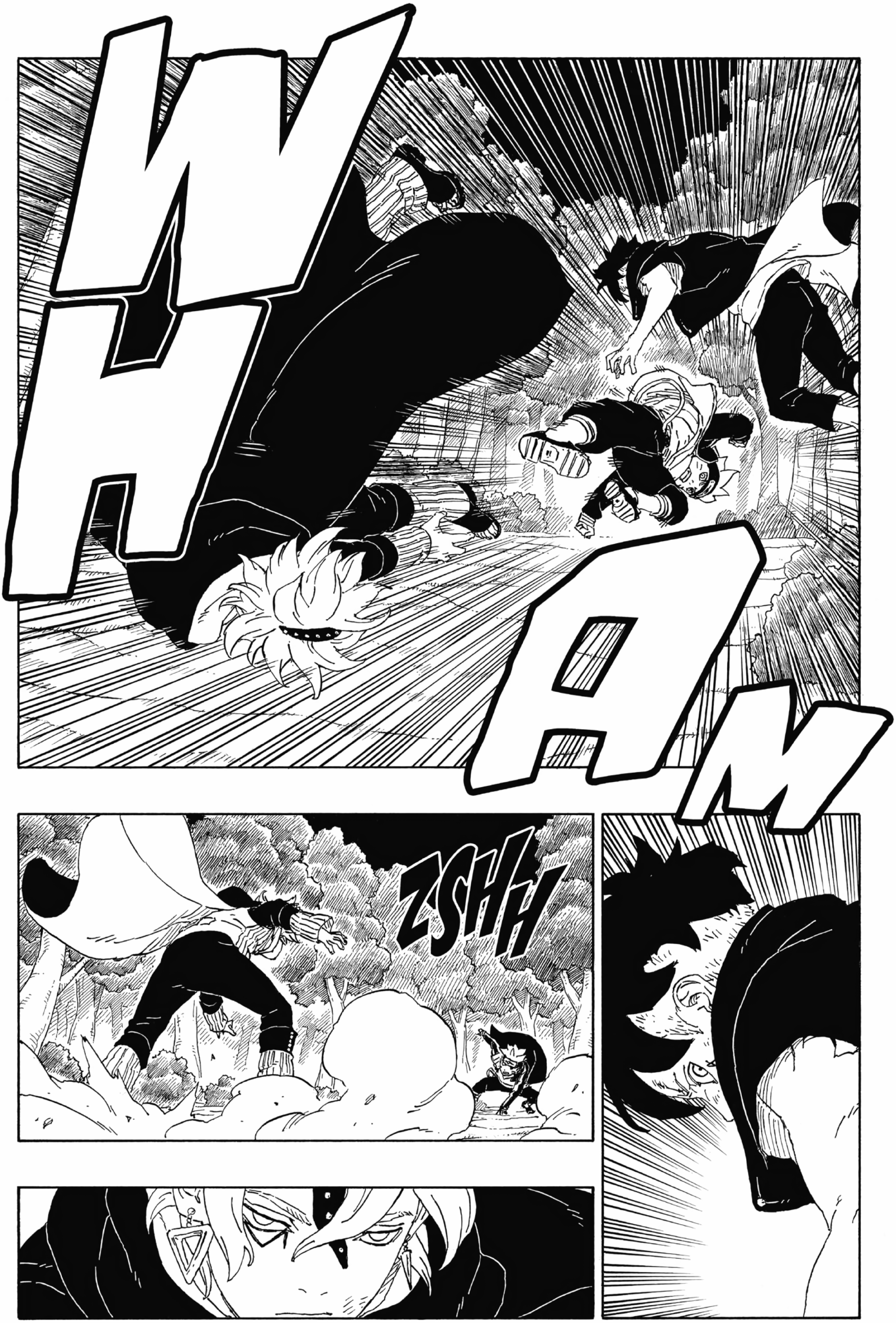

YOU SEE, KAWAKI...
I ALREADY KNOW.
I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO OHTSUTSUKI ISSHIKI.
HOW HE DIED THAT DAY. THE WHOLE STORY.
ALL THE DETAILS.

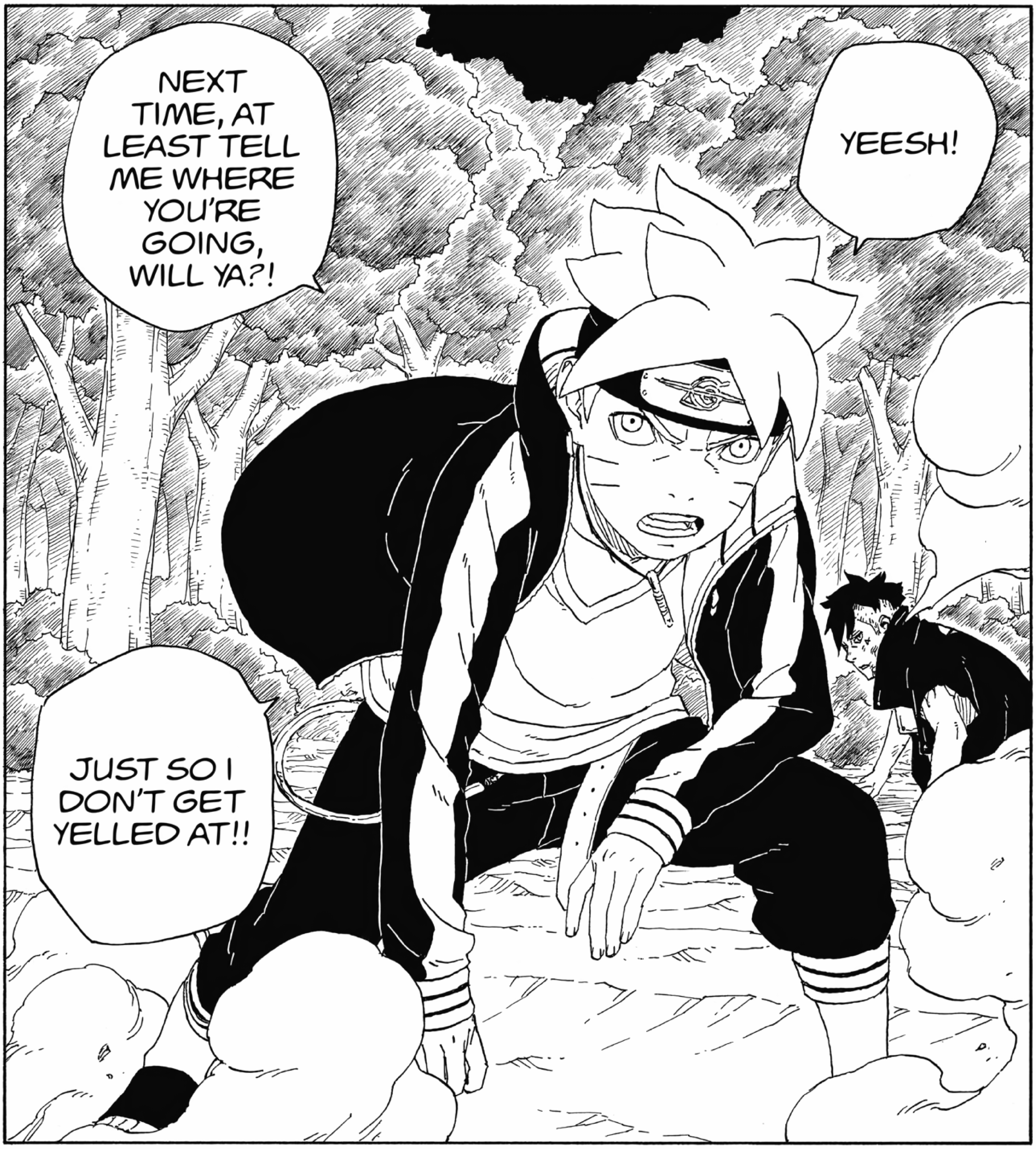

I'VE INHERITED THE OHTSUTSUKI WILL, AND AS PER...
...THE LATE ISSHIKI'S WISHES...
...I'LL CULTIVATE A DIVINE TREE ON THIS PLANET AND PROCURE ITS CHAKRA FRUIT.
I THINK YOU KNOW ALREADY, BUT...
...THE DIVINE TREE DEVOURS ALL OF THE CHAKRA EXISTING ON A PLANET.
UNLESS YOU ESCAPE TO ANOTHER DIMENSION, NEARLY EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING WILL DIE.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
EXACTING REVENGE AGAINST ISSHIKI'S KILLERS...
...IS JUST THE FIRST STAGE OF THE BIGGER CATASTROPHE TO COME.

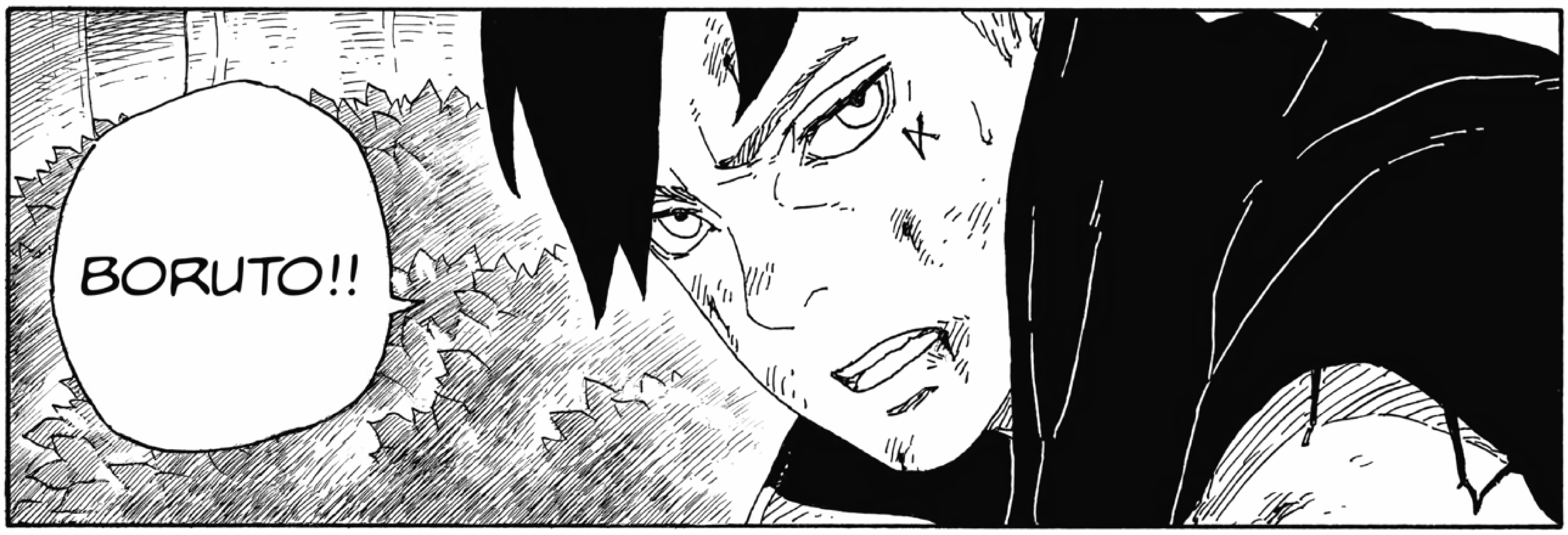

...
IN SHORT, IT'S JUST A PERSONAL OBSESSION OF MINE, TO KILL THEM ALL...
...DIRECTLY WITH MY OWN HANDS...
...BEFORE THEY ARE DEVOURED BY THE DIVINE TREE.
THE END RESULT'S THE SAME.
THAT OF EVERYONE DYING.
SO YOU SEE...
...YOUR PUNY EXISTENCE DOESN'T MATTER.
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A WHOLE DIFFERENT SCALE OF THINGS.


VWP
UNH!
UGGH !!
GRRP
OH, ONE MORE THING.
SOMETHING IMPORTANT I SHOULD TELL YOU.
YOU MIGHT FIND IT WEIRD, BUT...
...YOU'RE EXCLUDED FROM MY VENGEANCE LIST.
?!


THERE'S SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO MEET YOU.
THOUGH IT REALLY IRKS ME...
...THAT YOU SEEM TO ALWAYS BE NEEDED BY SOMEBODY.
YOU'RE COMING WITH ME.
ZWG
WAAH!


WHAM
ZSHH

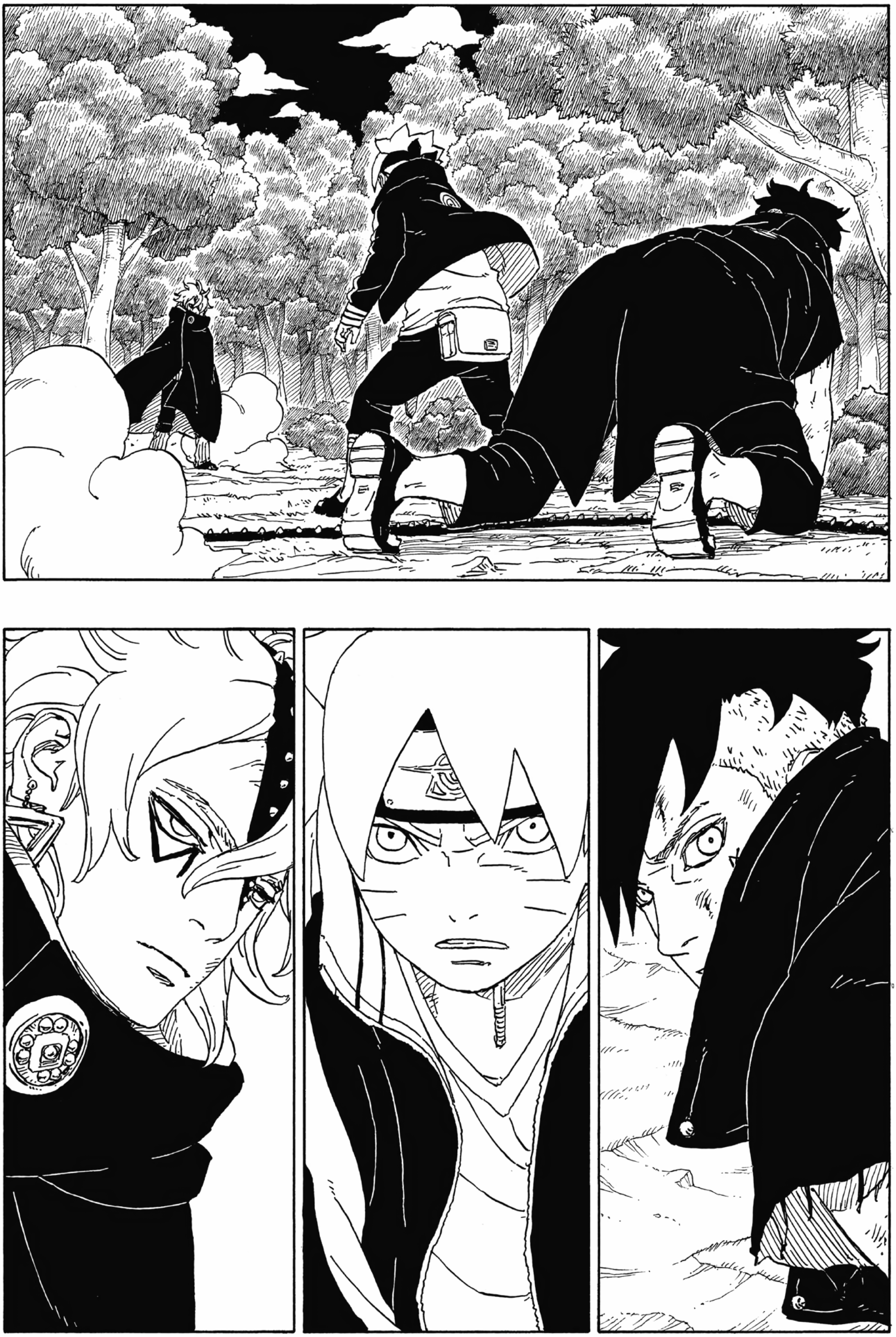

YEESH!
NEXT TIME, AT LEAST TELL ME WHERE YOU'RE GOING, WILL YA?!
JUST SO I DON'T GET YELLED AT!!

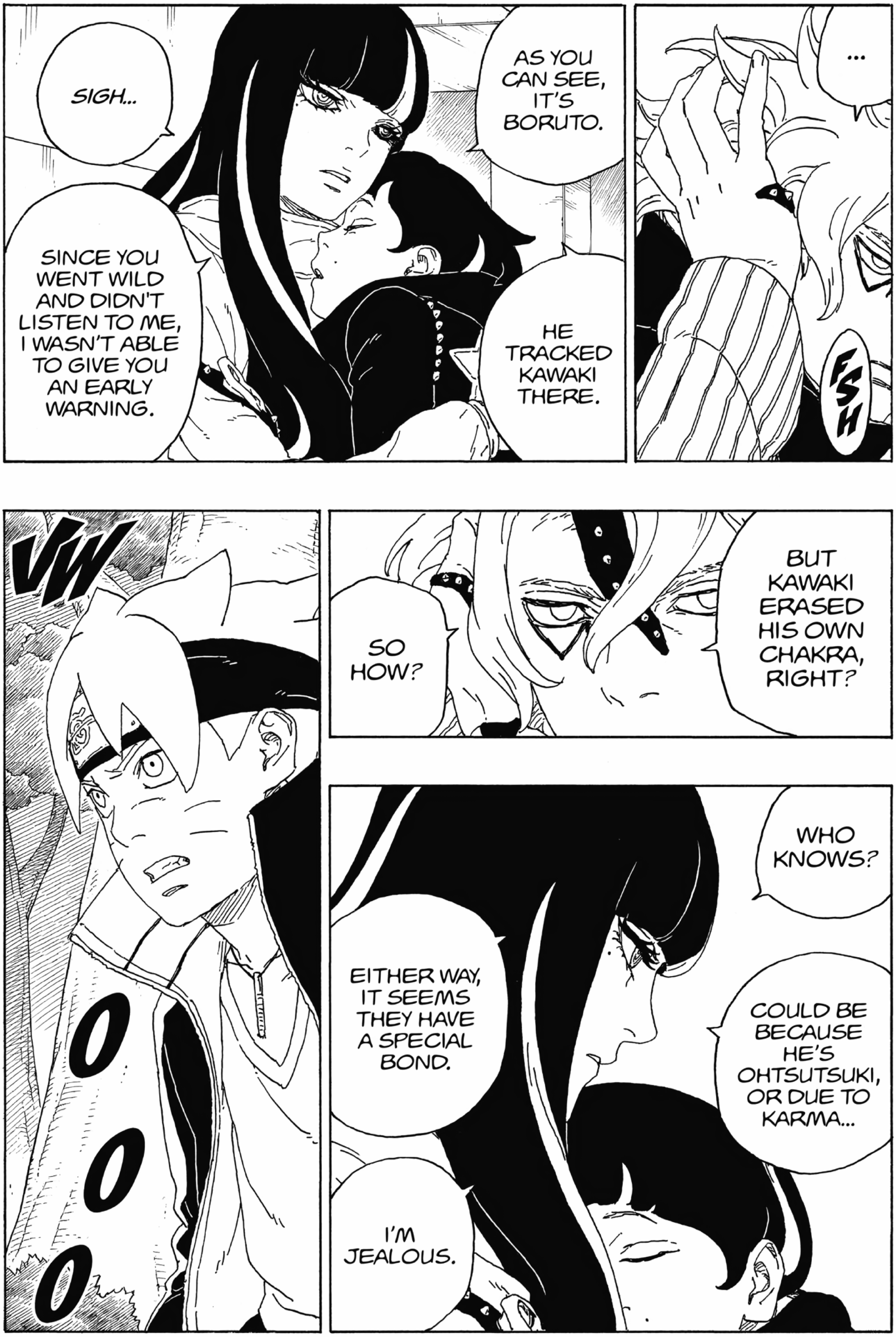

BORUTO!!

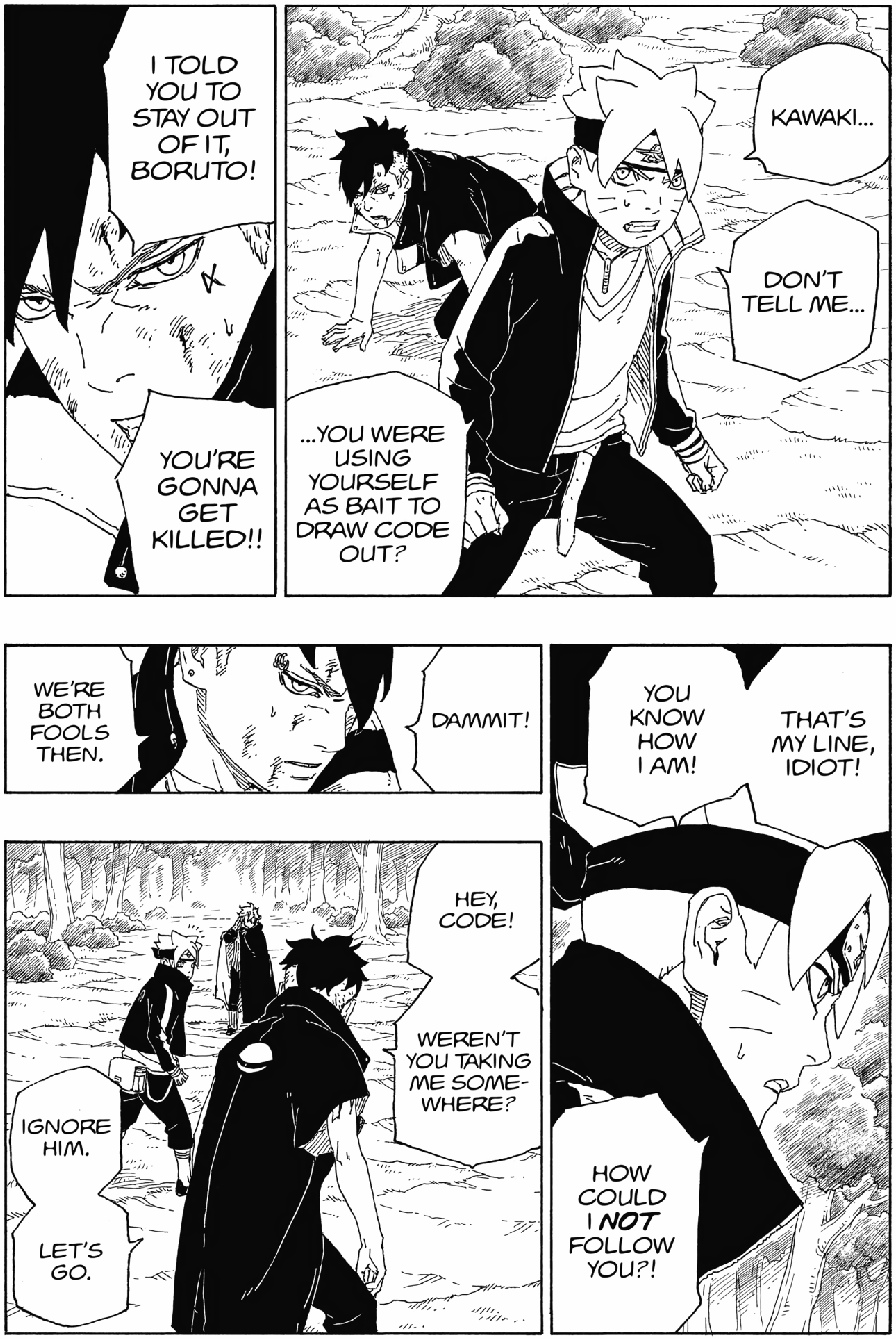
BORUTO

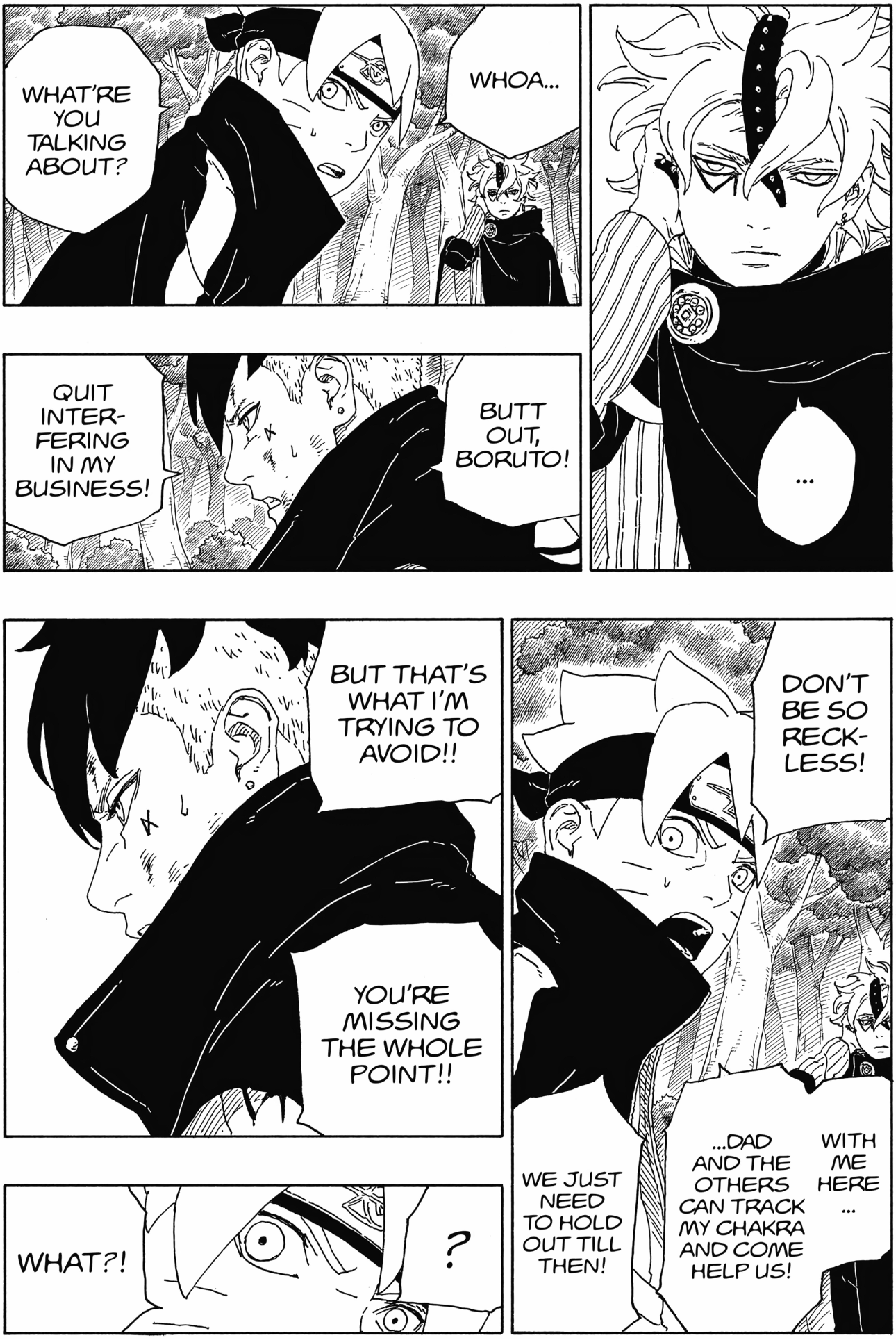
-NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS-

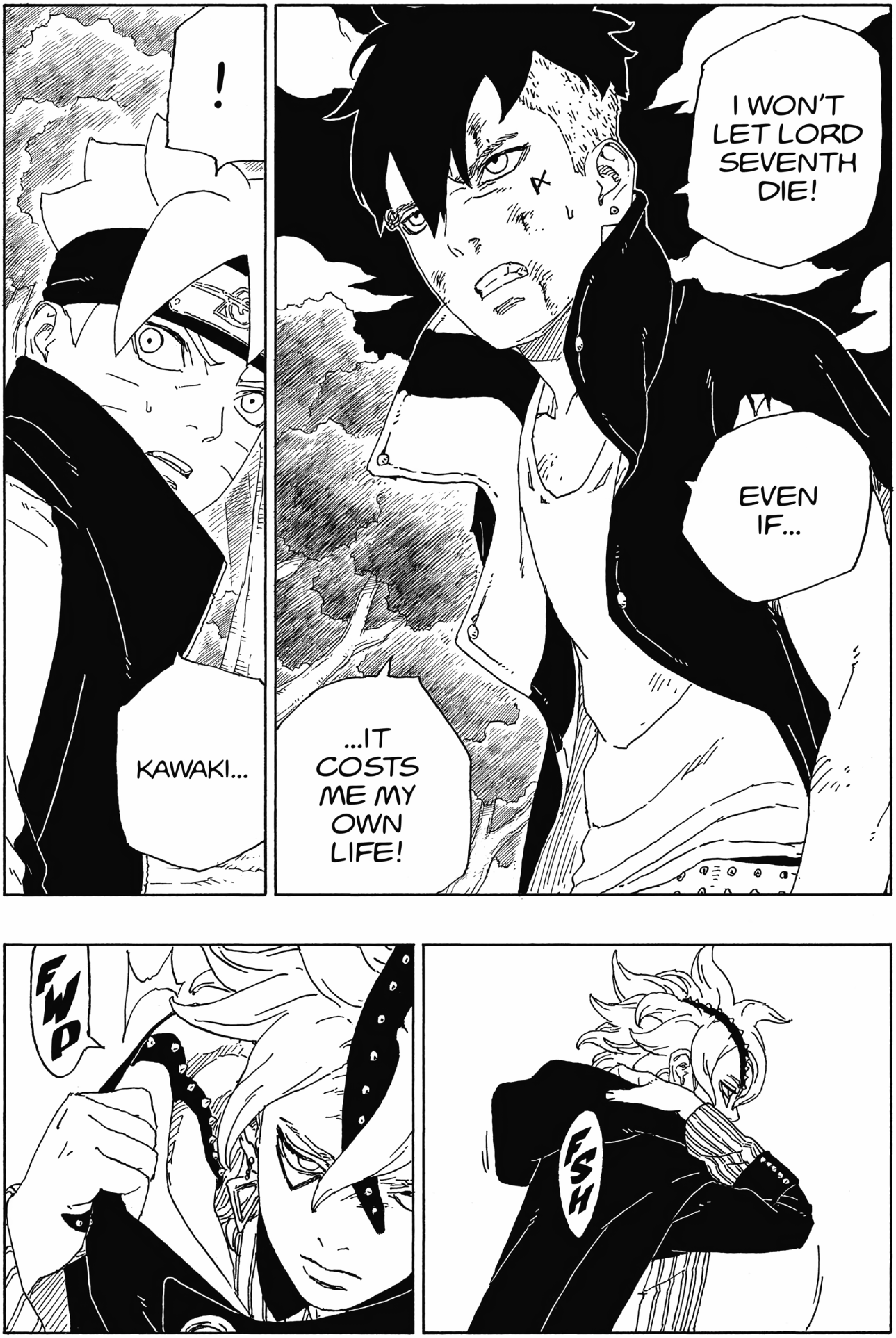
Number 63: Ask No Questions

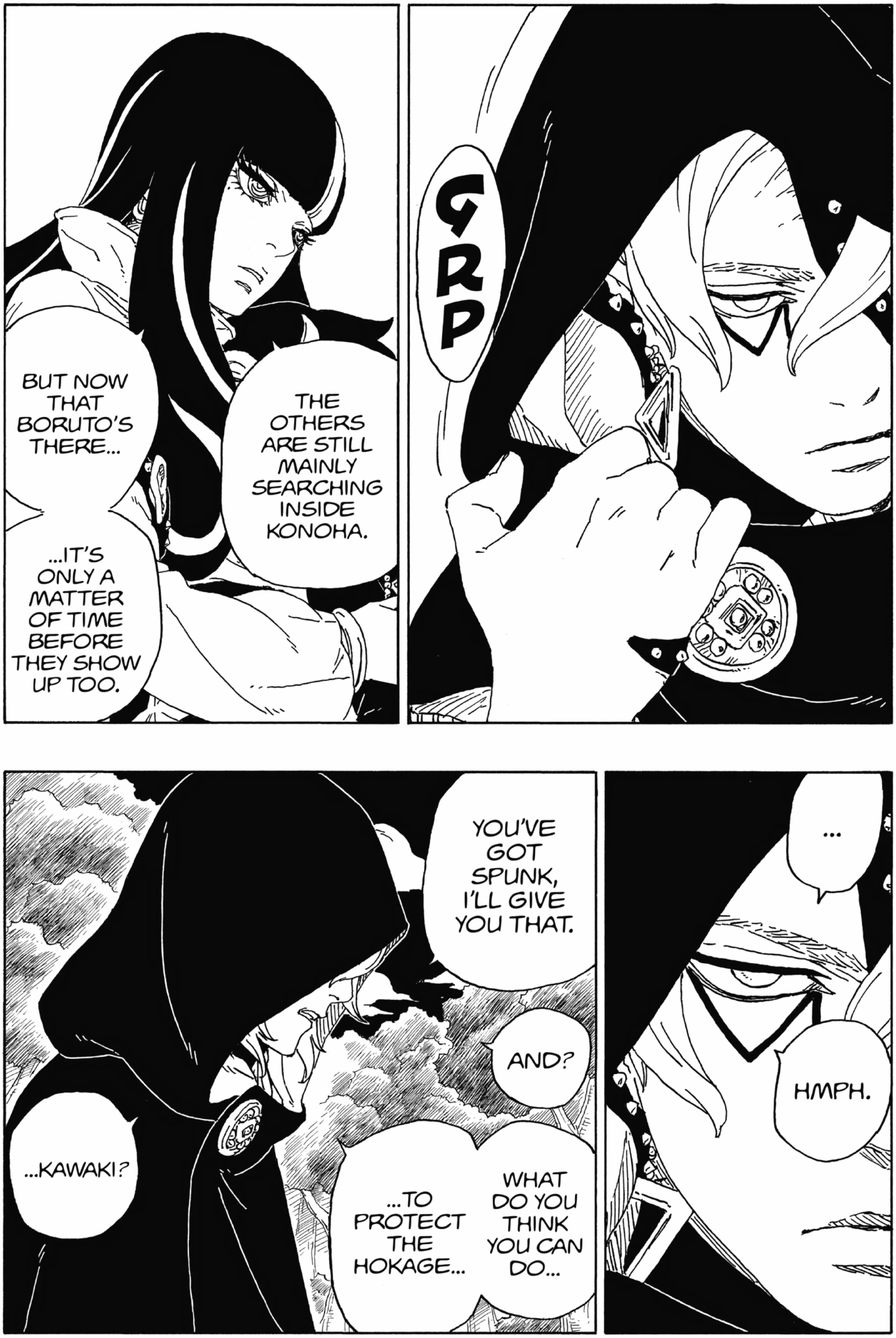


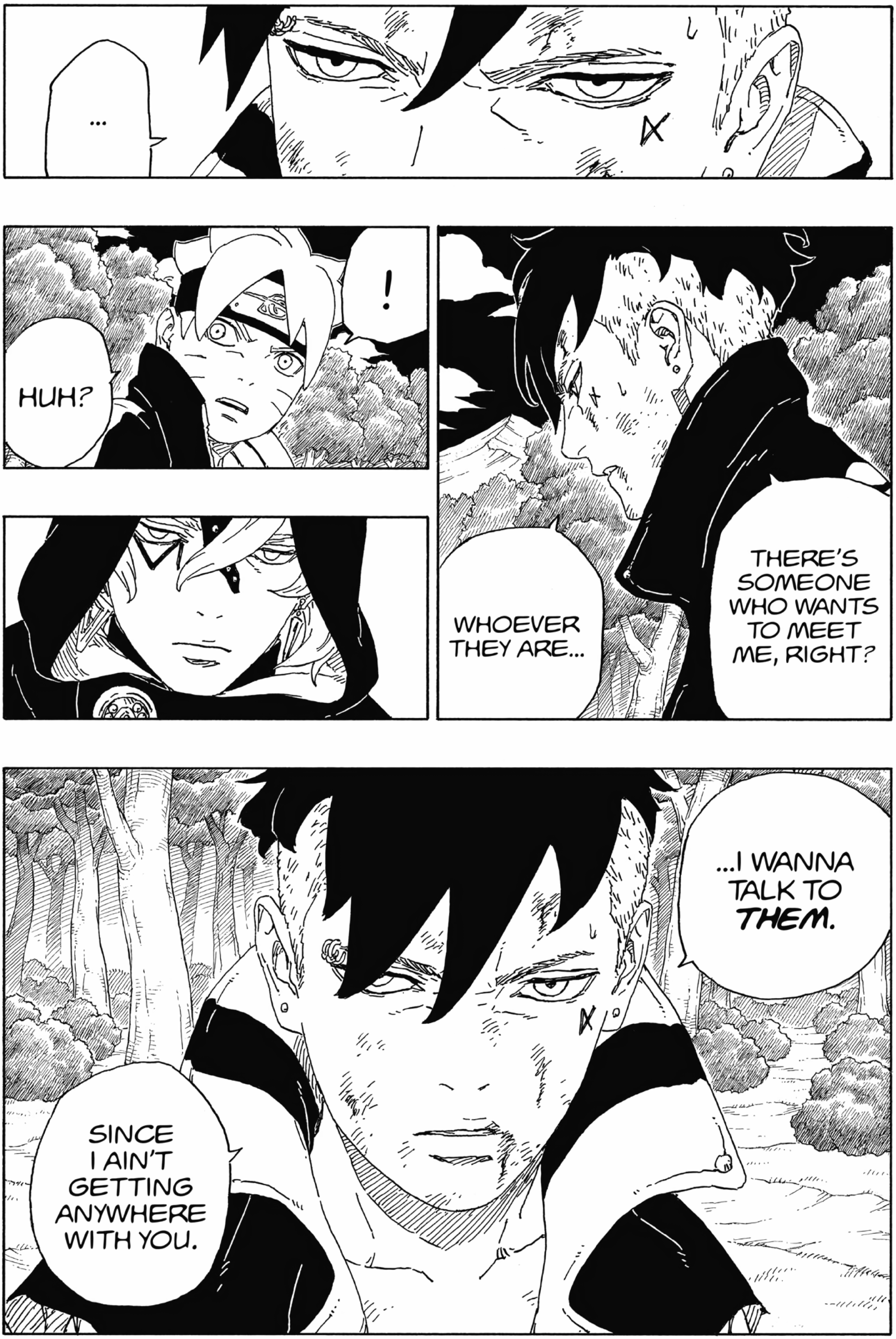

...
FSH
AS YOU CAN SEE, IT'S BORUTO.
HE TRACKED KAWAKI THERE.
SIGH...
SINCE YOU WENT WILD AND DIDN'T LISTEN TO ME, I WASN'T ABLE TO GIVE YOU AN EARLY WARNING.
BUT KAWAKI ERASED HIS OWN CHAKRA, RIGHT?
SO HOW?
WHO KNOWS?
COULD BE BECAUSE HE'S OHTSUTSUKI, OR DUE TO KARMA...
EITHER WAY, IT SEEMS THEY HAVE A SPECIAL BOND.
I'M JEALOUS.
VWOOOO

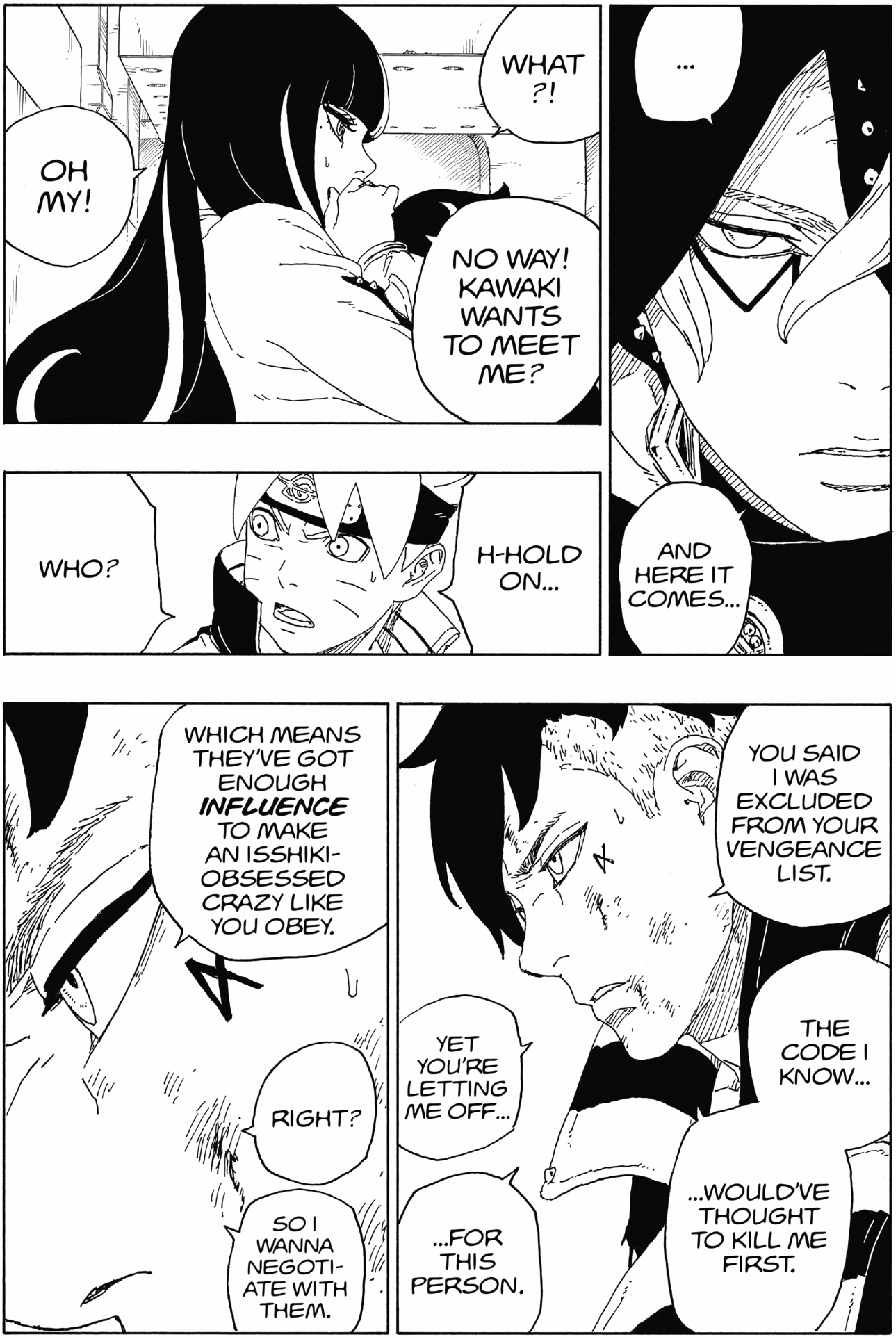

KAWAKI...
DON'T TELL ME...
...YOU WERE USING YOURSELF AS BAIT TO DRAW CODE OUT?
I TOLD YOU TO STAY OUT OF IT, BORUTO!
YOU'RE GONNA GET KILLED!!
THAT'S MY LINE, IDIOT!
YOU KNOW HOW I AM!
HOW COULD I ***NOT*** FOLLOW YOU?!
DAMMIT!
WE'RE BOTH FOOLS THEN.
HEY, CODE!
WEREN'T YOU TAKING ME SOMEWHERE?
IGNORE HIM.
LET'S GO.

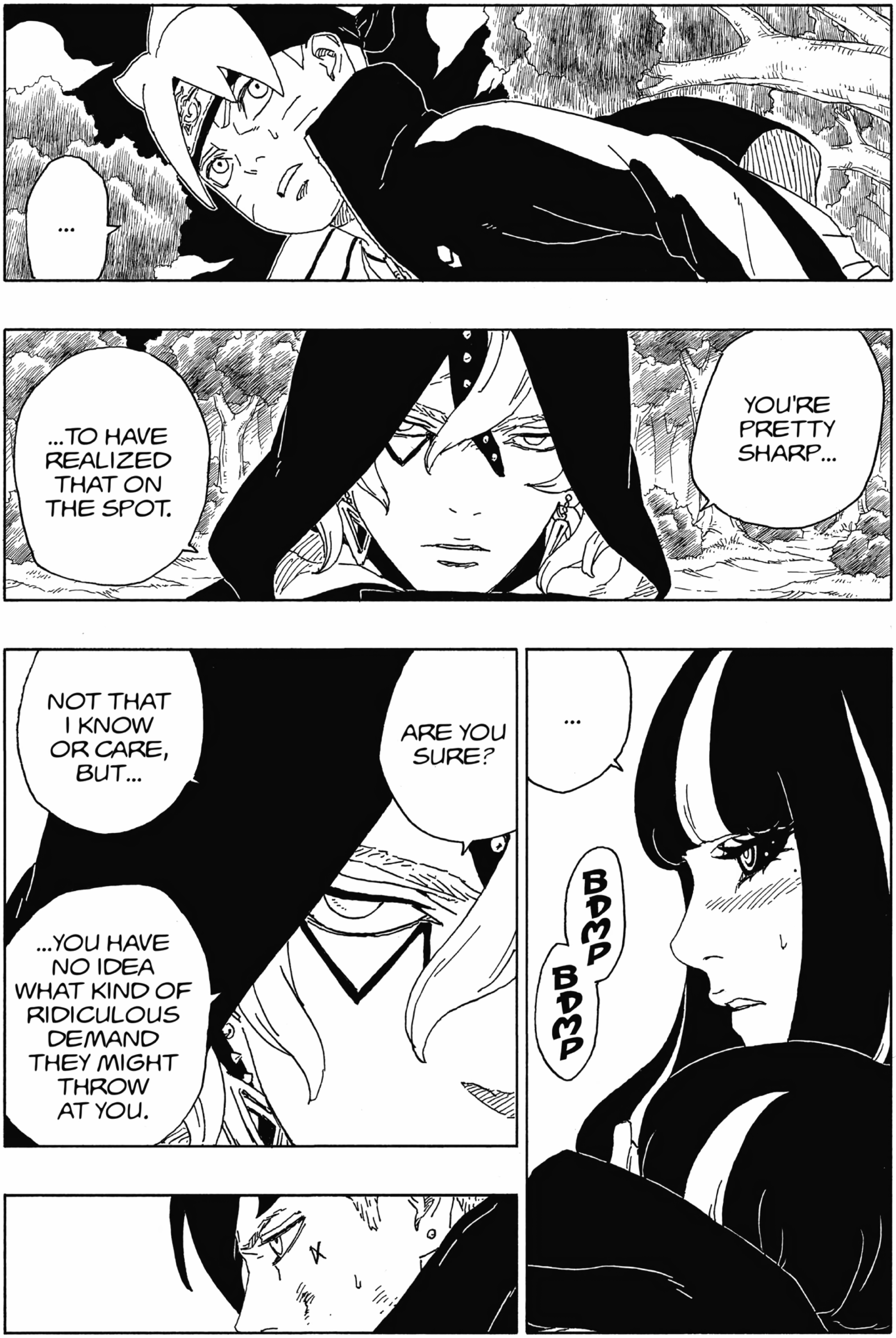

WHOA...
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
...
BUTT OUT, BORUTO!
QUIT INTERFERING IN MY BUSINESS!
DON'T BE SO RECKLESS!
WITH ME HERE...
...DAD AND THE OTHERS CAN TRACK MY CHAKRA AND COME HELP US!
WE JUST NEED TO HOLD OUT TILL THEN!
BUT THAT'S WHAT I'M TRYING TO AVOID!!
YOU'RE MISSING THE WHOLE POINT!!
?
WHAT?!

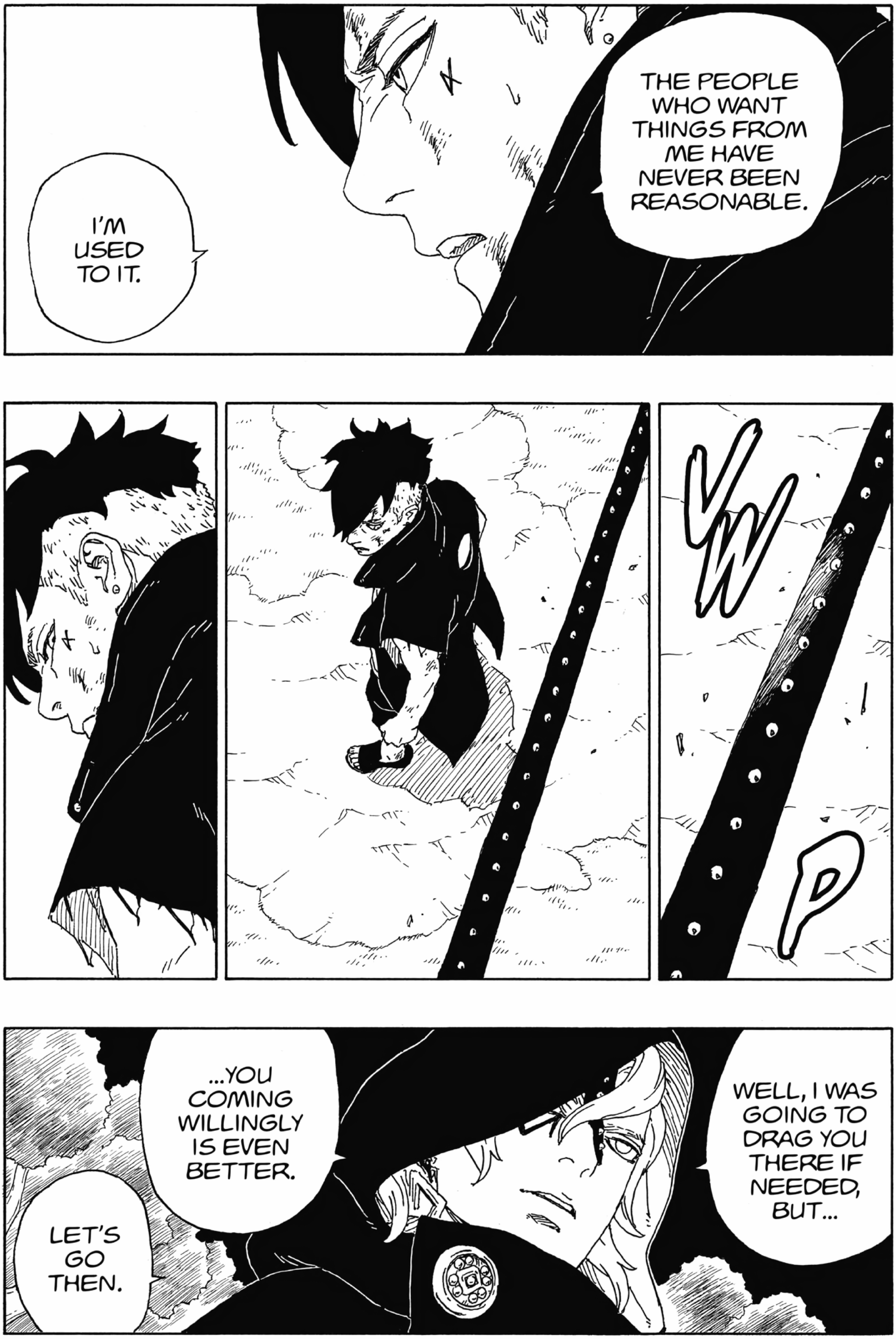

I WON'T LET LORD SEVENTH DIE!
EVEN IF...
...IT COSTS ME MY OWN LIFE!
!
KAWAKI...
FSH
FWP

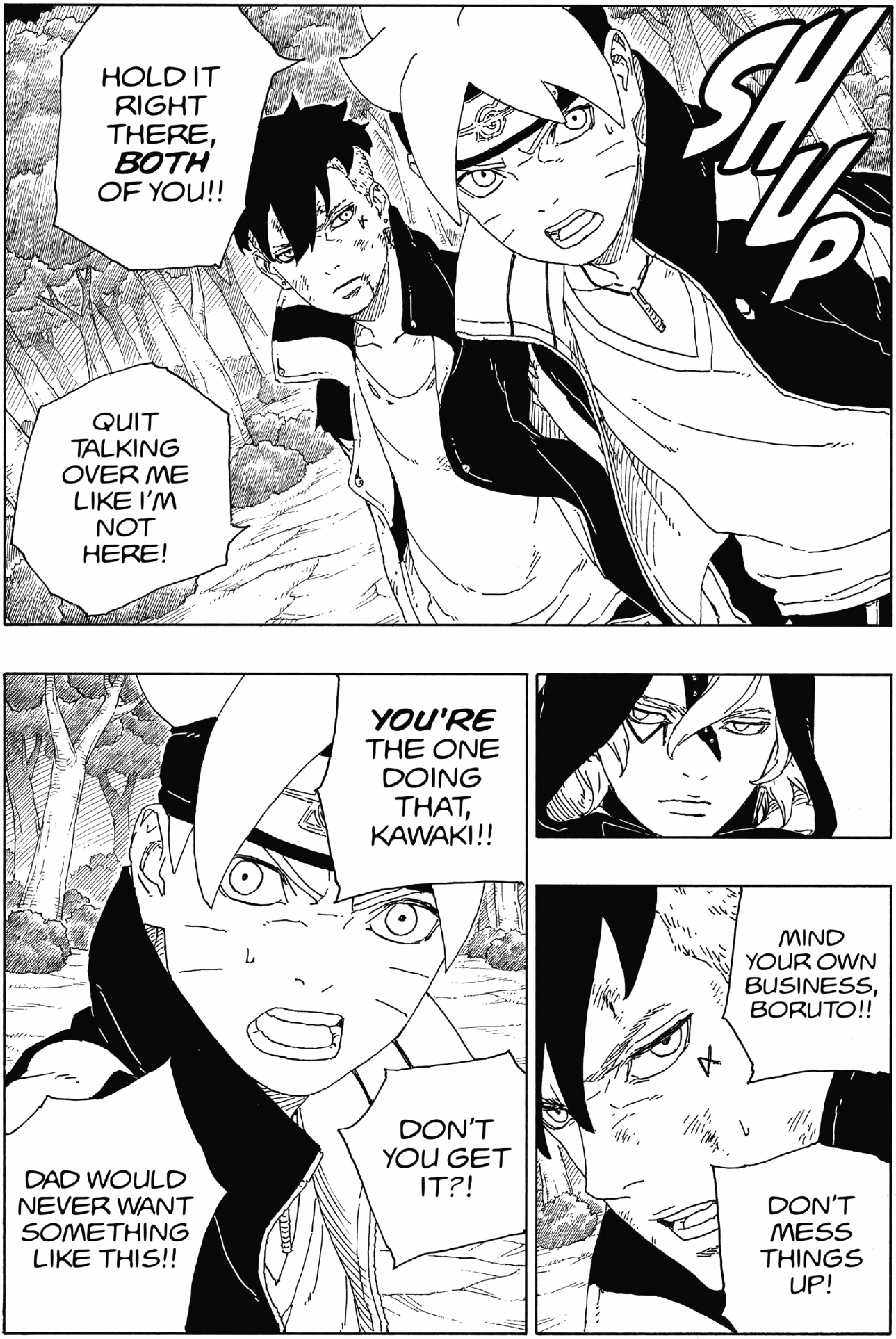

GRP
THE OTHERS ARE STILL MAINLY SEARCHING INSIDE KONOHA.
BUT NOW THAT BORUTO'S THERE...
...IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY SHOW UP TOO.
...
HMPH.
YOU'VE GOT SPUNK, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.
AND?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO...
...TO PROTECT THE HOKAGE...
...KAWAKI?

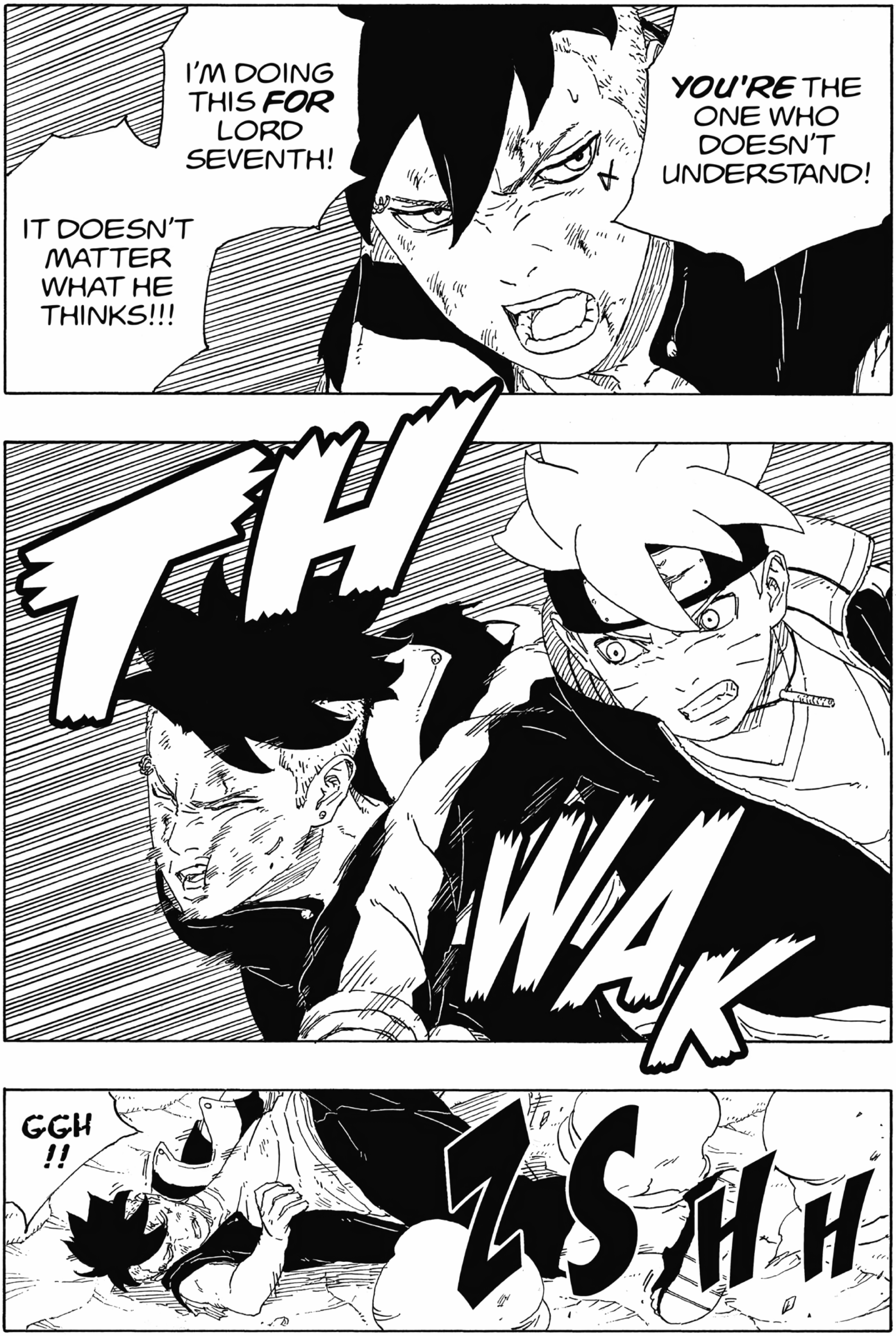

...
THERE'S SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO MEET ME, RIGHT?
WHOEVER THEY ARE...
!
HUH?
...I WANNA TALK TO **THEM.**
SINCE I AIN'T GETTING ANYWHERE WITH YOU.

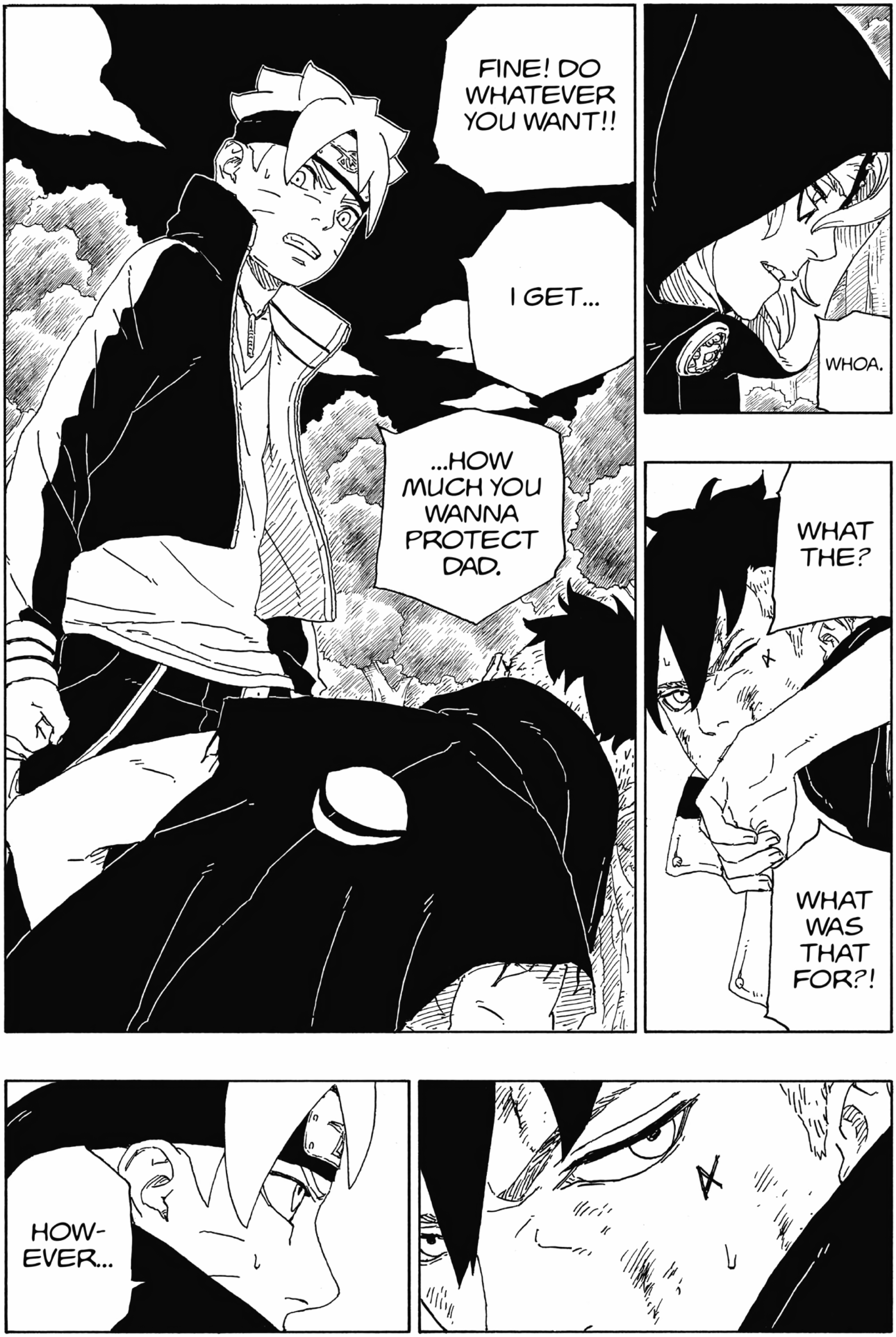

...
AND HERE IT COMES...
WHAT?!
OH MY!
NO WAY! KAWAKI WANTS TO MEET ME?
H-HOLD ON...
WHO?
YOU SAID I WAS EXCLUDED FROM YOUR VENGEANCE LIST.
YET YOU'RE LETTING ME OFF...
...FOR THIS PERSON.
THE CODE I KNOW...
...WOULD'VE THOUGHT TO KILL ME FIRST.
WHICH MEANS THEY'VE GOT ENOUGH **INFLUENCE** TO MAKE AN ISSHIKI-OBSESSED CRAZY LIKE YOU OBEY.
RIGHT?
SO I WANNA NEGOTIATE WITH THEM.

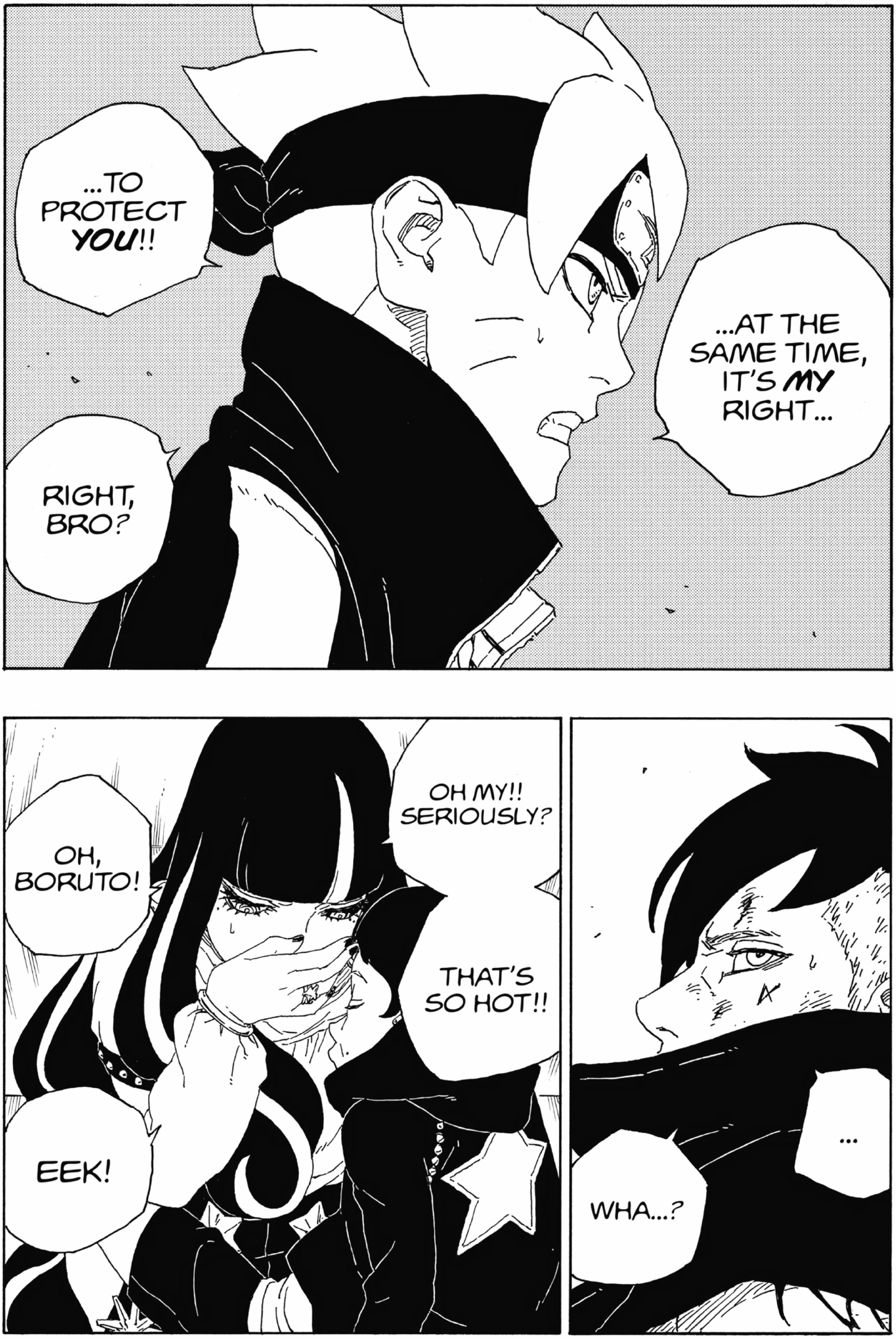

...
YOU'RE PRETTY SHARP...
...TO HAVE REALIZED THAT ON THE SPOT.
...
BDMP
BDMP
ARE YOU SURE?
NOT THAT I KNOW OR CARE, BUT...
...YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT KIND OF RIDICULOUS DEMAND THEY MIGHT THROW AT YOU.

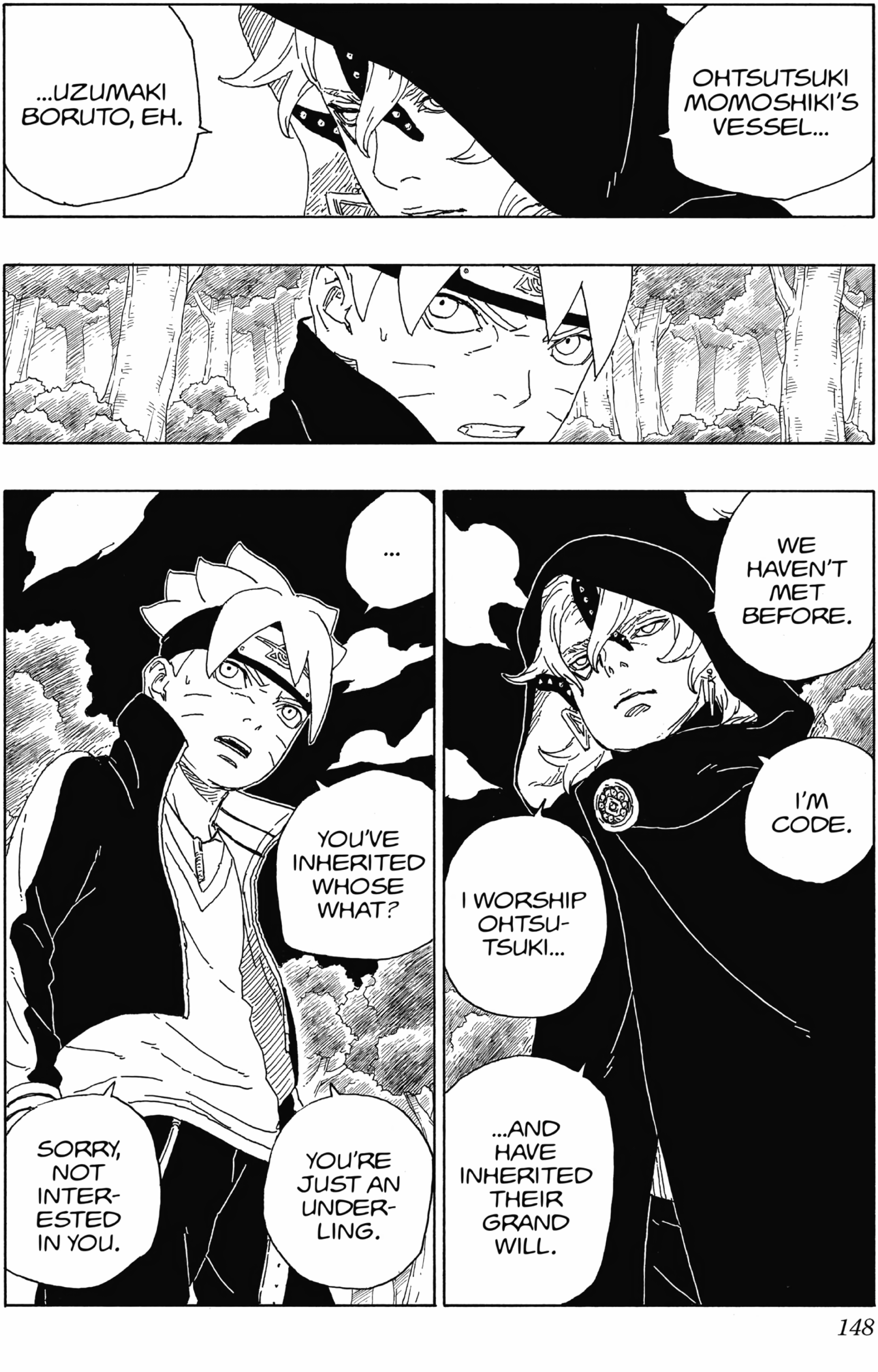

THE PEOPLE WHO WANT THINGS FROM ME HAVE NEVER BEEN REASONABLE.
I'M USED TO IT.
VWP
WELL, I WAS GOING TO DRAG YOU THERE IF NEEDED, BUT...
...YOU COMING WILLINGLY IS EVEN BETTER.
LET'S GO THEN.

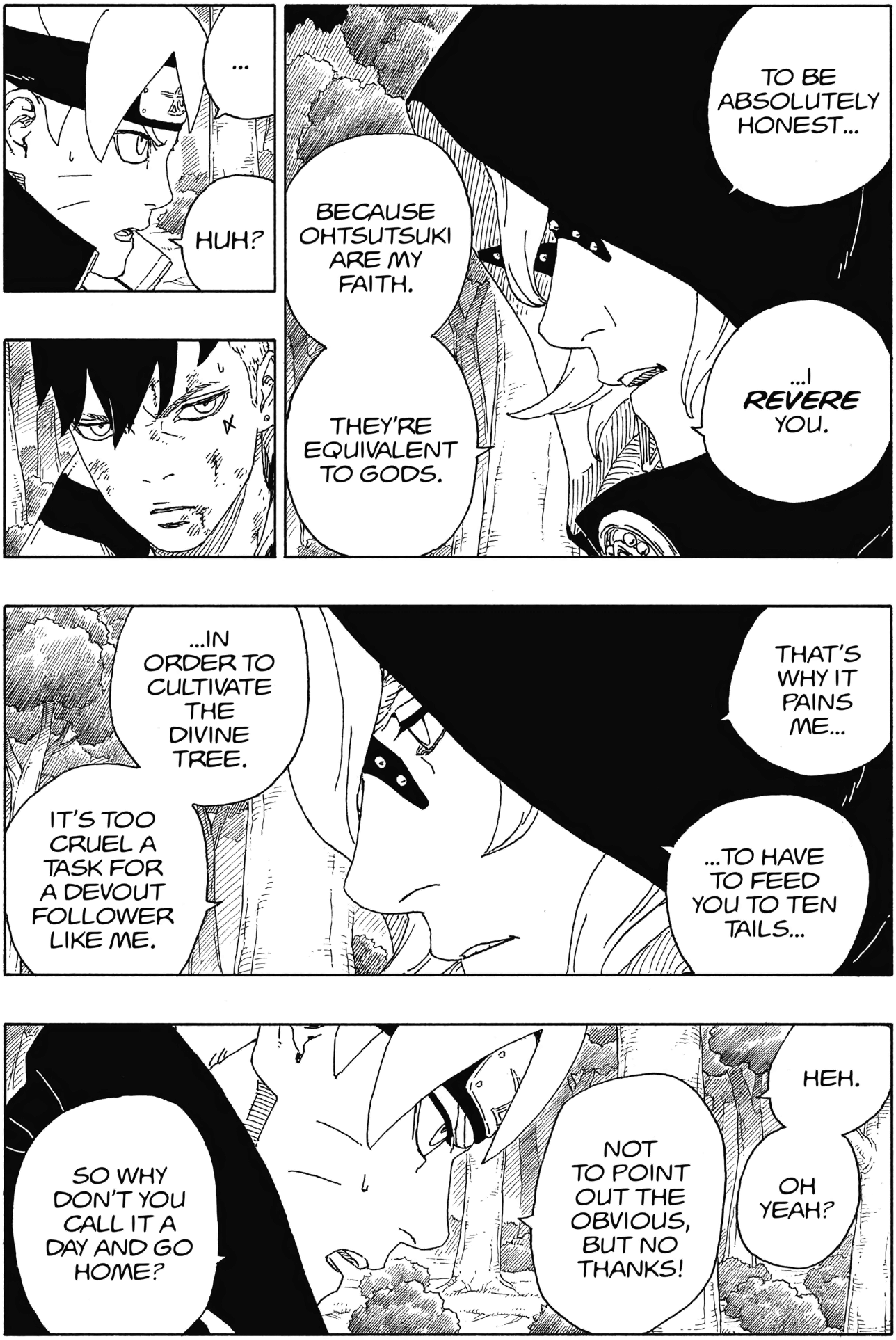

SHUP
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, **BOTH** OF YOU!!
QUIT TALKING OVER ME LIKE I'M NOT HERE!
YOU'RE THE ONE DOING THAT, KAWAKI!!
DON'T YOU GET IT?!
DAD WOULD NEVER WANT SOMETHING LIKE THIS!!
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, BORUTO!!
DON'T MESS THINGS UP!

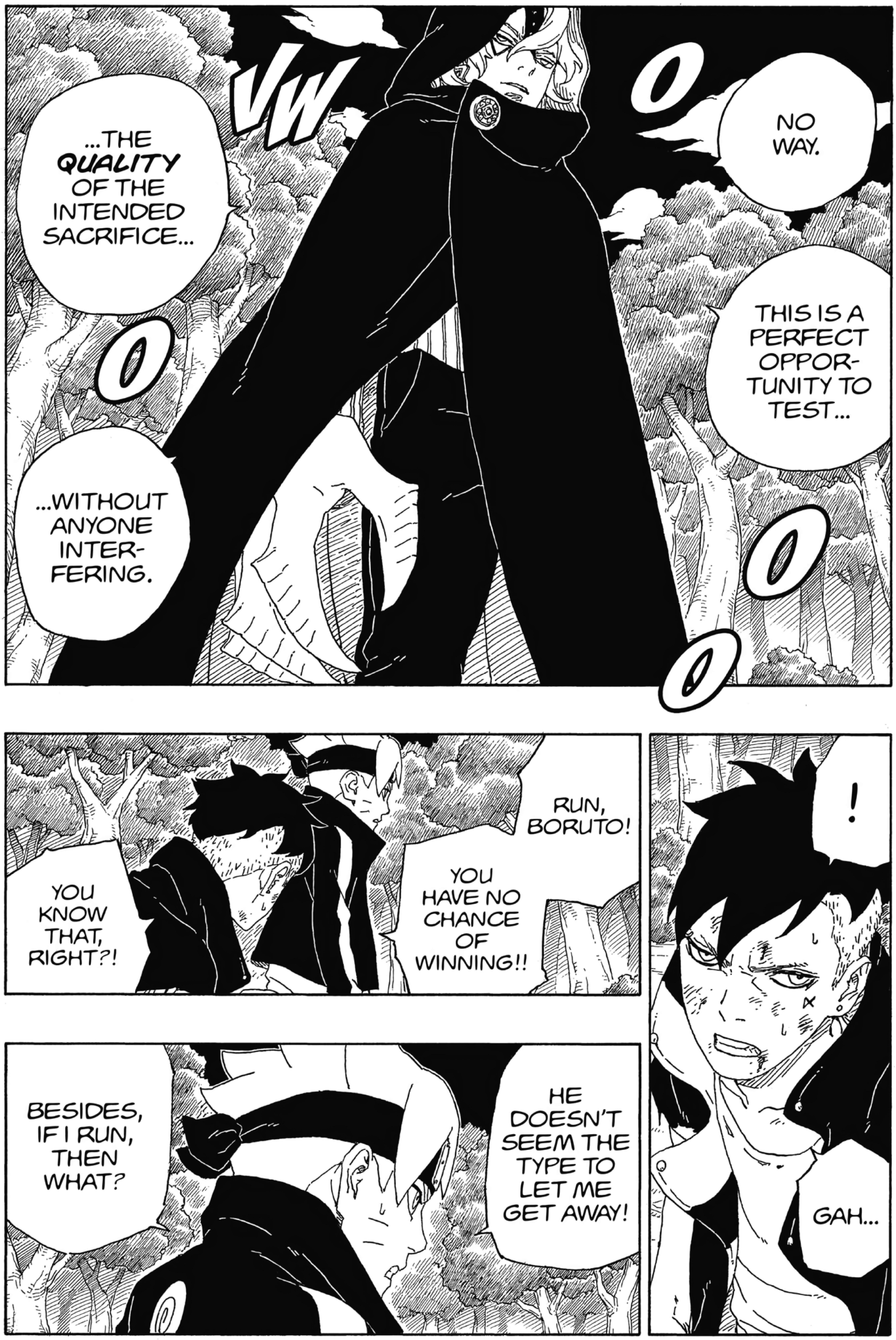

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND!
I'M DOING THIS FOR LORD SEVENTH!
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HE THINKS!!!
THWAK
ZSHH
GGH!!

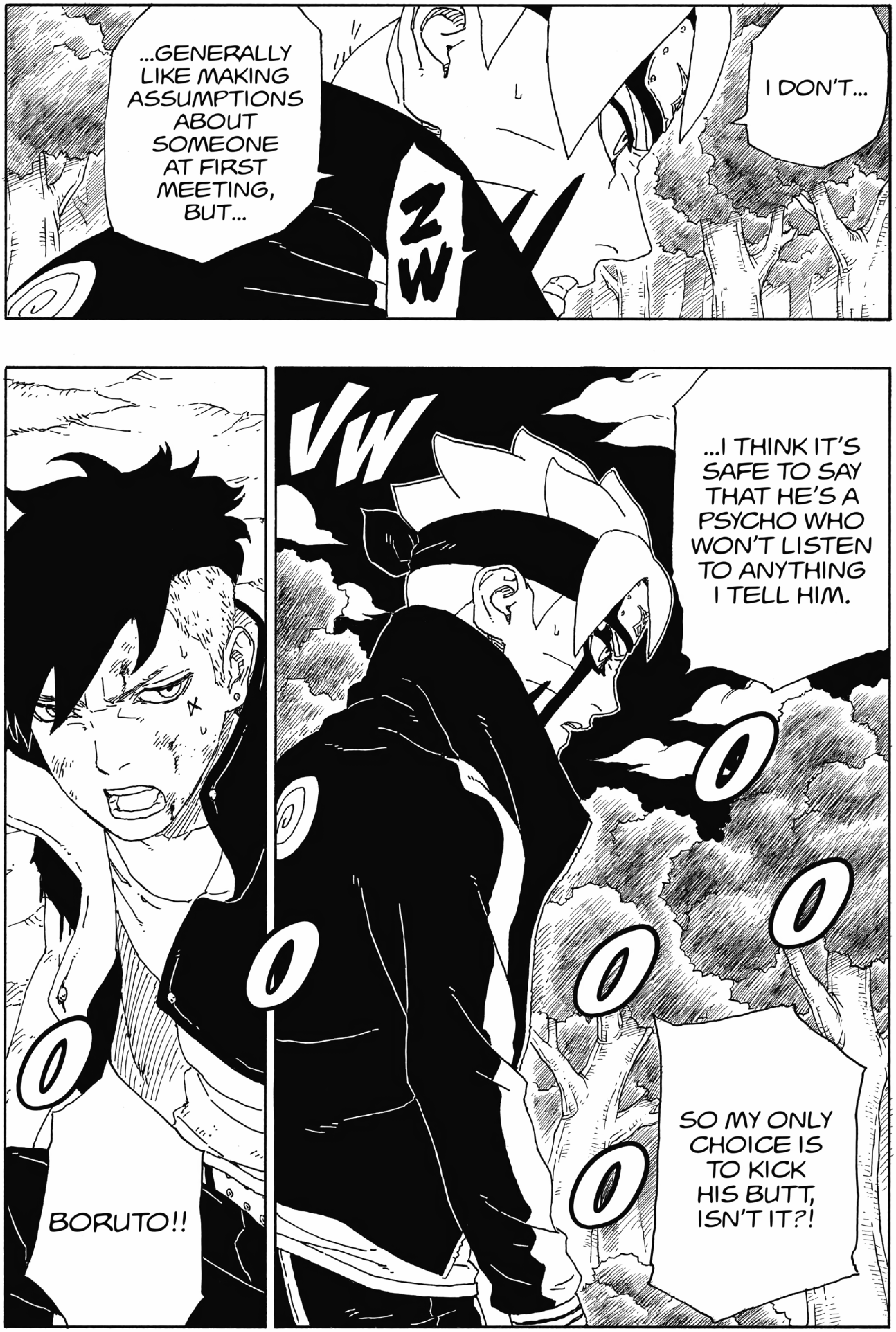

WHOA.
FINE! DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!!
I GET...
...HOW MUCH YOU WANNA PROTECT DAD.
WHAT THE?
WHAT WAS THAT FOR?!
HOW-EVER...

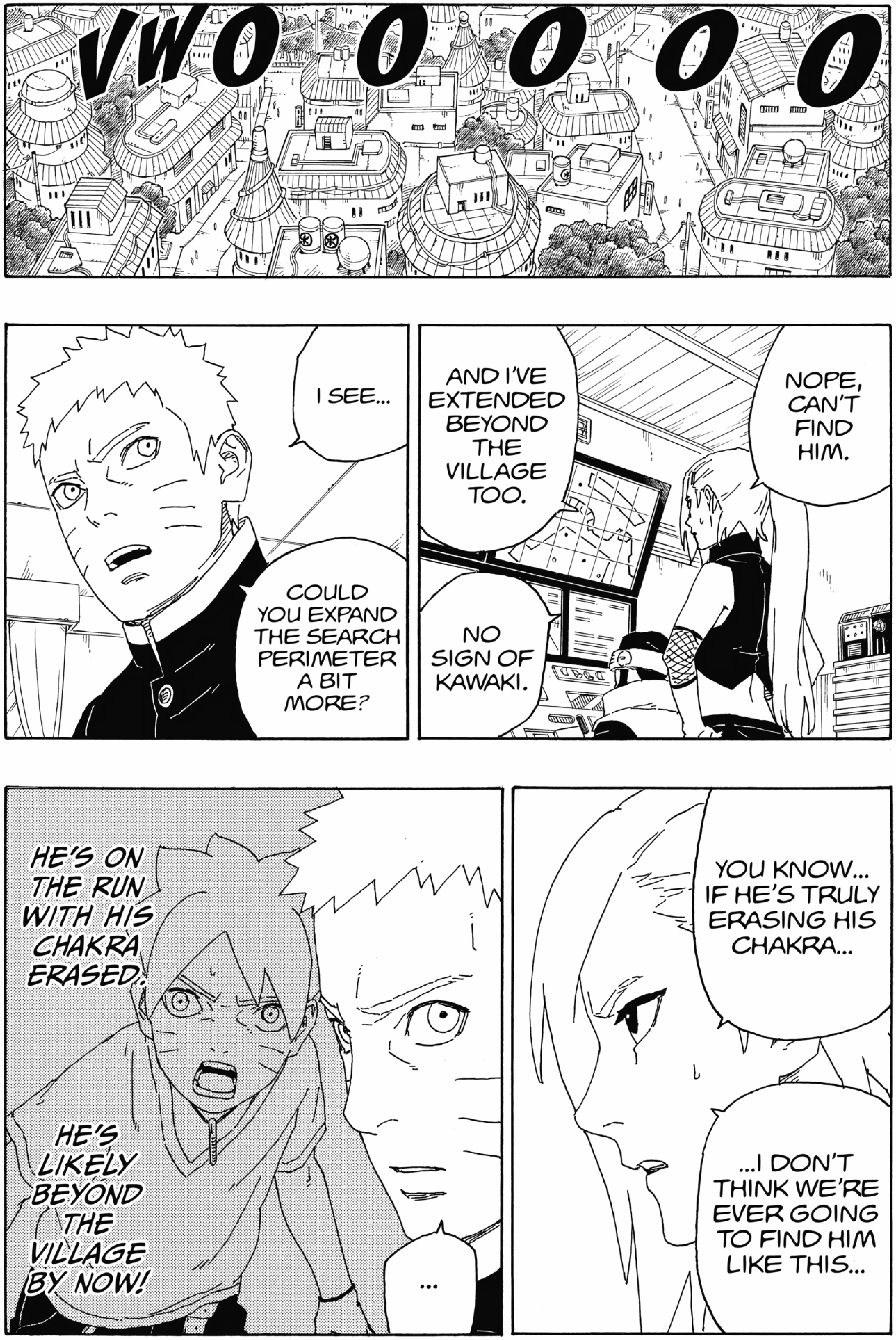

...AT THE SAME TIME, IT'S **MY** RIGHT...
...TO PROTECT **YOU**!!
RIGHT, BRO?
...
WHA...?
OH MY!! SERIOUSLY?
THAT'S SO HOT!!
OH, BORUTO!
EEK!

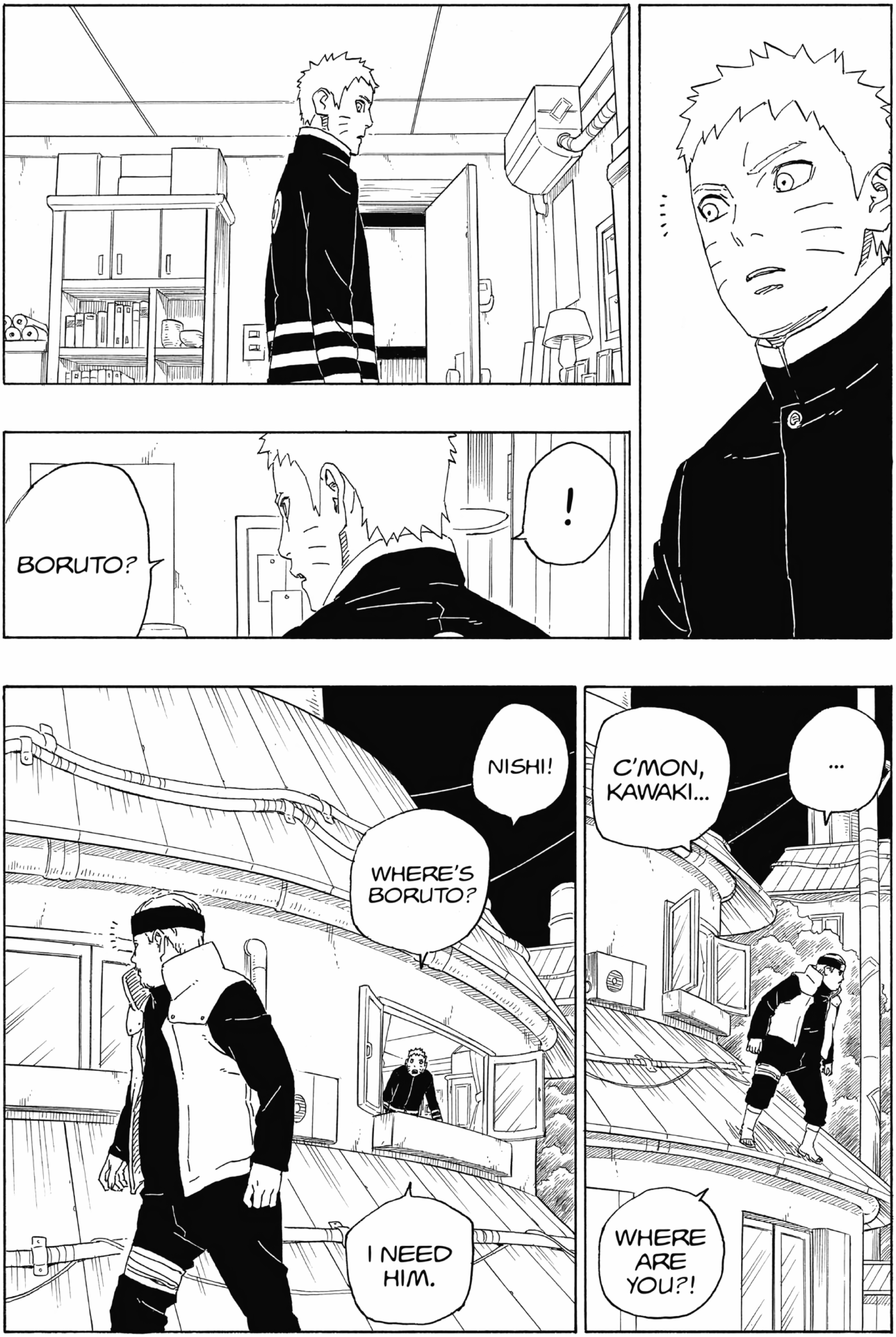

OHTSUTSUKI MOMOSHIKI'S VESSEL...
...UZUMAKI BORUTO, EH.
WE HAVEN'T MET BEFORE.
I'M CODE.
I WORSHIP OHTSUTSUKI...
...AND HAVE INHERITED THEIR GRAND WILL.
...
YOU'VE INHERITED WHOSE WHAT?
YOU'RE JUST AN UNDERLING.
SORRY, NOT INTERESTED IN YOU.

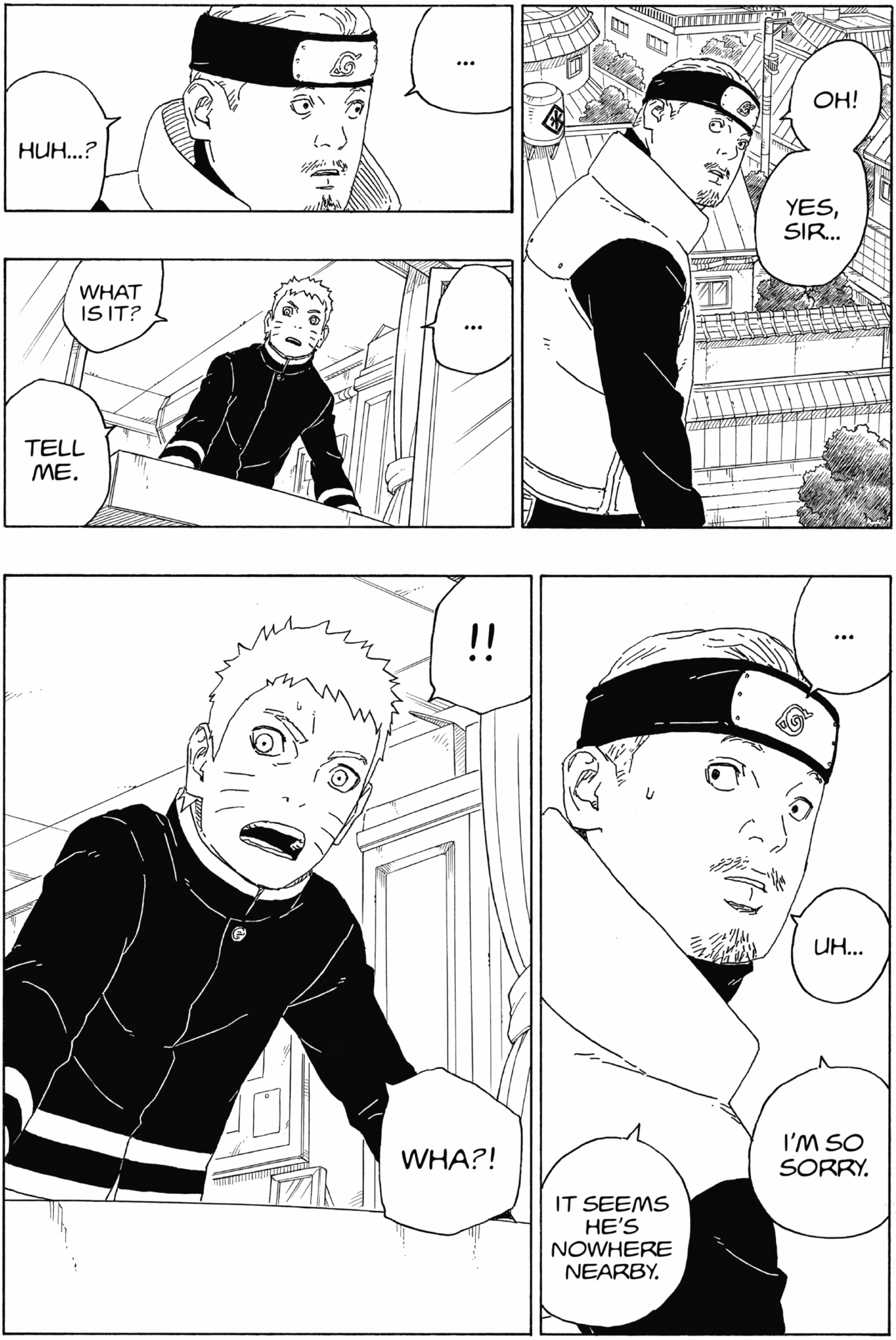

TO BE ABSOLUTELY HONEST...
...I *REVERE* YOU.
BECAUSE OHTSUTSUKI ARE MY FAITH.
THEY'RE EQUIVALENT TO GODS.
...
HUH?
THAT'S WHY IT PAINS ME...
...TO HAVE TO FEED YOU TO TEN TAILS...
...IN ORDER TO CULTIVATE THE DIVINE TREE.
IT'S TOO CRUEL A TASK FOR A DEVOUT FOLLOWER LIKE ME.
HEH.
OH YEAH?
NOT TO POINT OUT THE OBVIOUS, BUT NO THANKS!
SO WHY DON'T YOU CALL IT A DAY AND GO HOME?

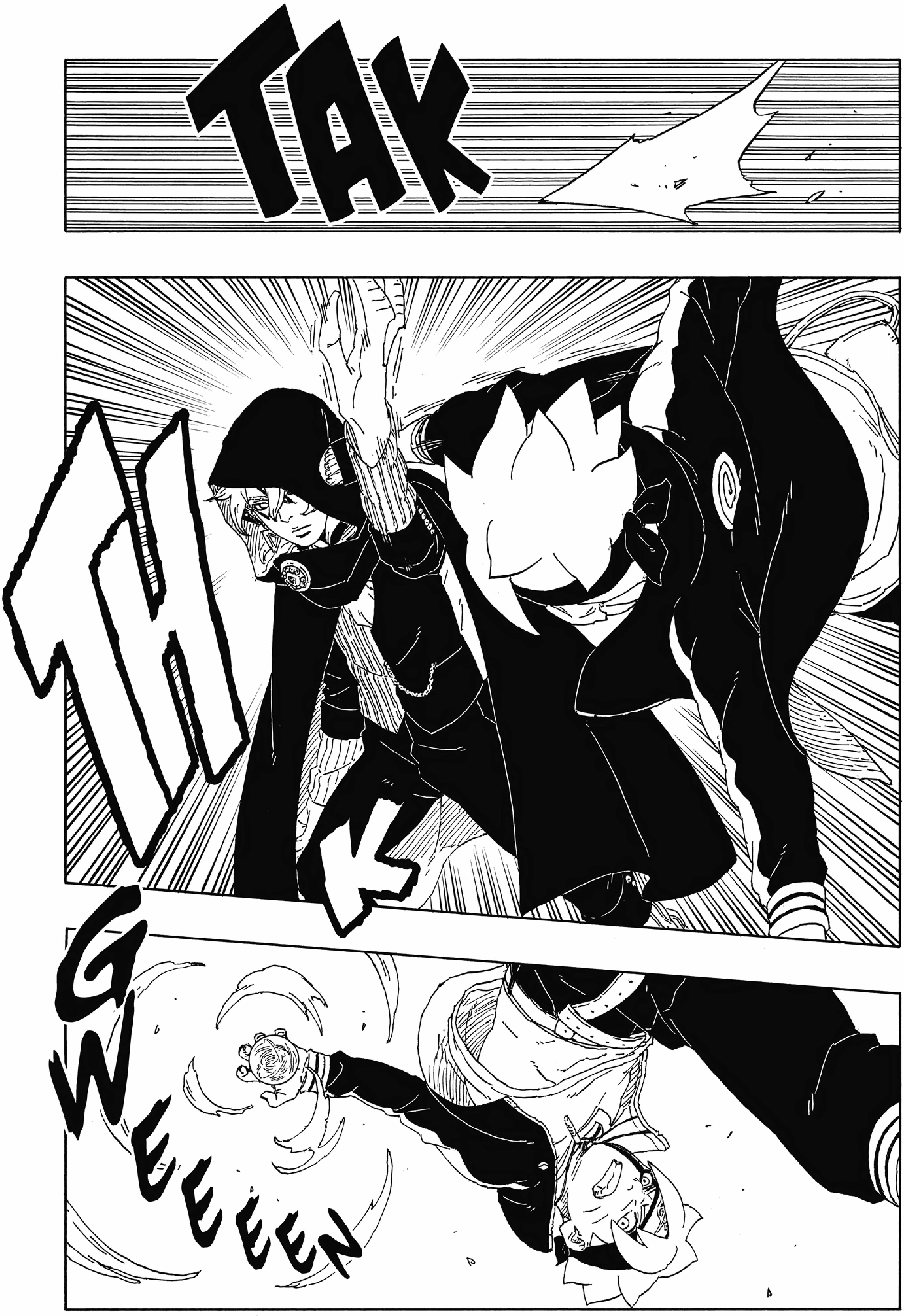

VW
NO WAY.
THIS IS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO TEST...
...THE **QUALITY** OF THE INTENDED SACRIFICE...
...WITHOUT ANYONE INTERFERING.
!
GAH...
RUN, BORUTO!
YOU HAVE NO CHANCE OF WINNING!!
YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?!
HE DOESN'T SEEM THE TYPE TO LET ME GET AWAY!
BESIDES, IF I RUN, THEN WHAT?

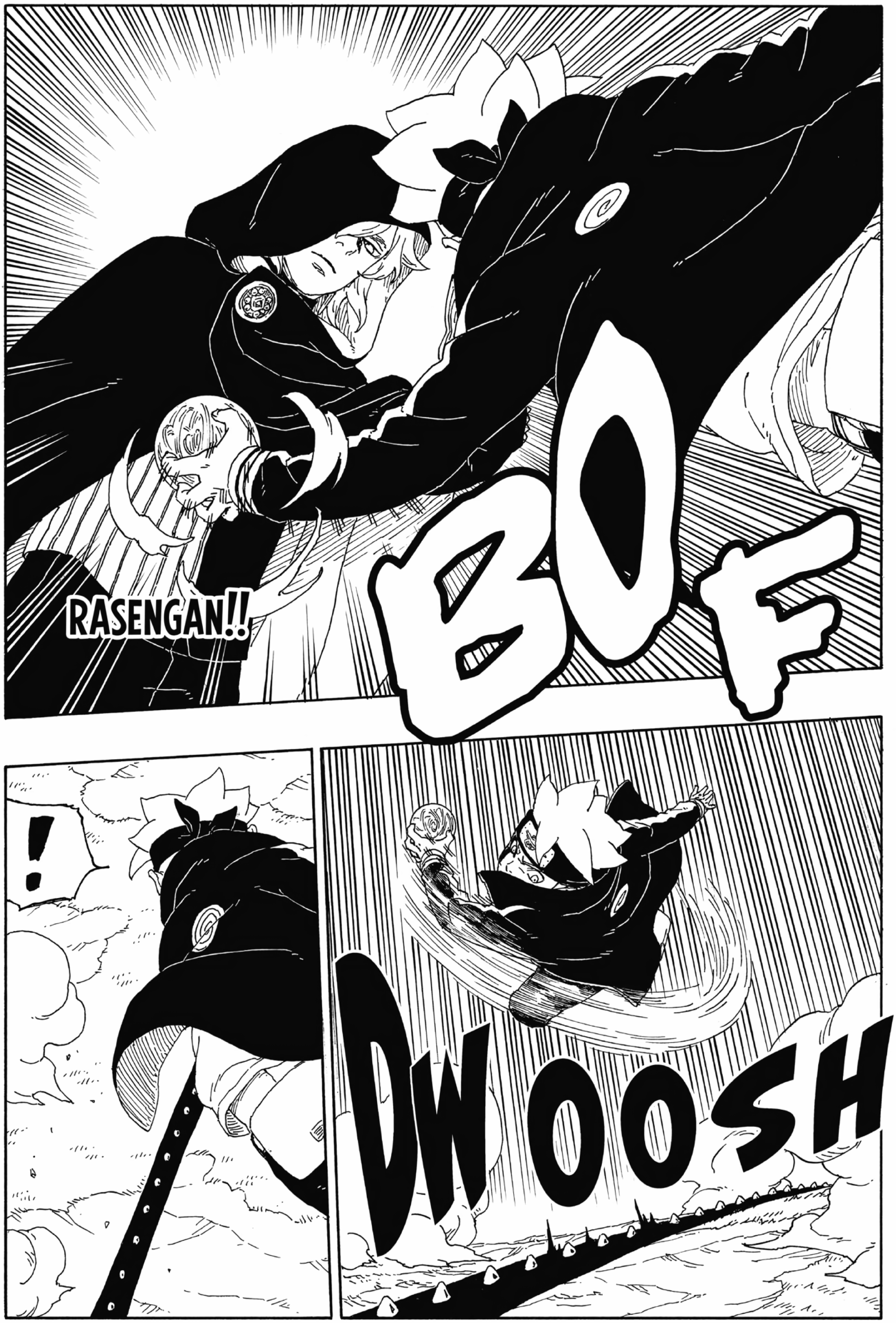

I DON'T...
...GENERALLY LIKE MAKING ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT SOMEONE AT FIRST MEETING, BUT...
ZW
VW
...I THINK IT'S SAFE TO SAY THAT HE'S A PSYCHO WHO WON'T LISTEN TO ANYTHING I TELL HIM.
SO MY ONLY CHOICE IS TO KICK HIS BUTT, ISN'T IT?!
BORUTO!!

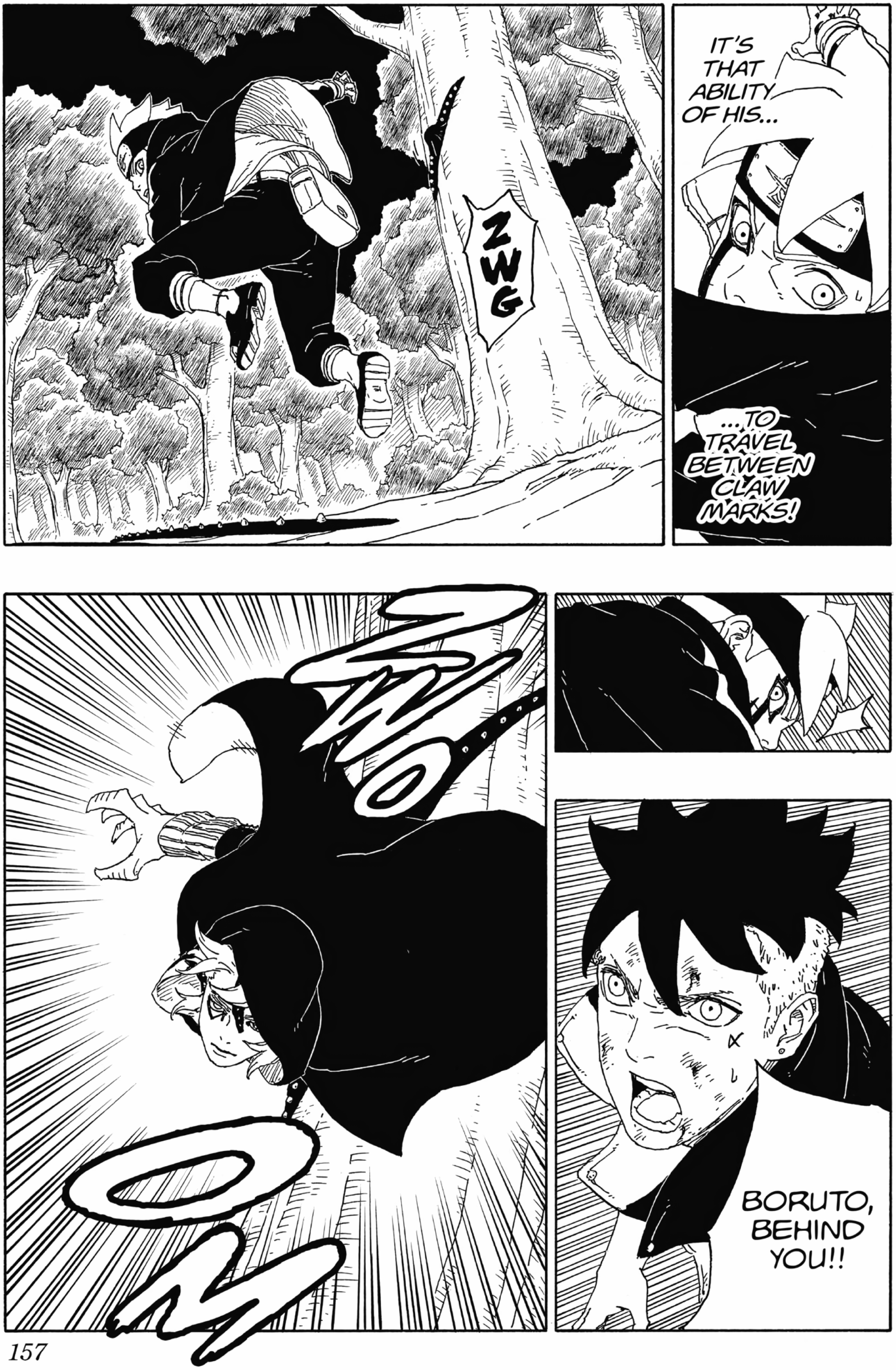

VWOOOOOO
NOPE, CAN'T FIND HIM.
AND I'VE EXTENDED BEYOND THE VILLAGE TOO.
NO SIGN OF KAWAKI.
I SEE...
COULD YOU EXPAND THE SEARCH PERIMETER A BIT MORE?
YOU KNOW... IF HE'S TRULY ERASING HIS CHAKRA...
...I DON'T THINK WE'RE EVER GOING TO FIND HIM LIKE THIS...
HE'S ON THE RUN WITH HIS CHAKRA ERASED.
HE'S LIKELY BEYOND THE VILLAGE BY NOW!
...

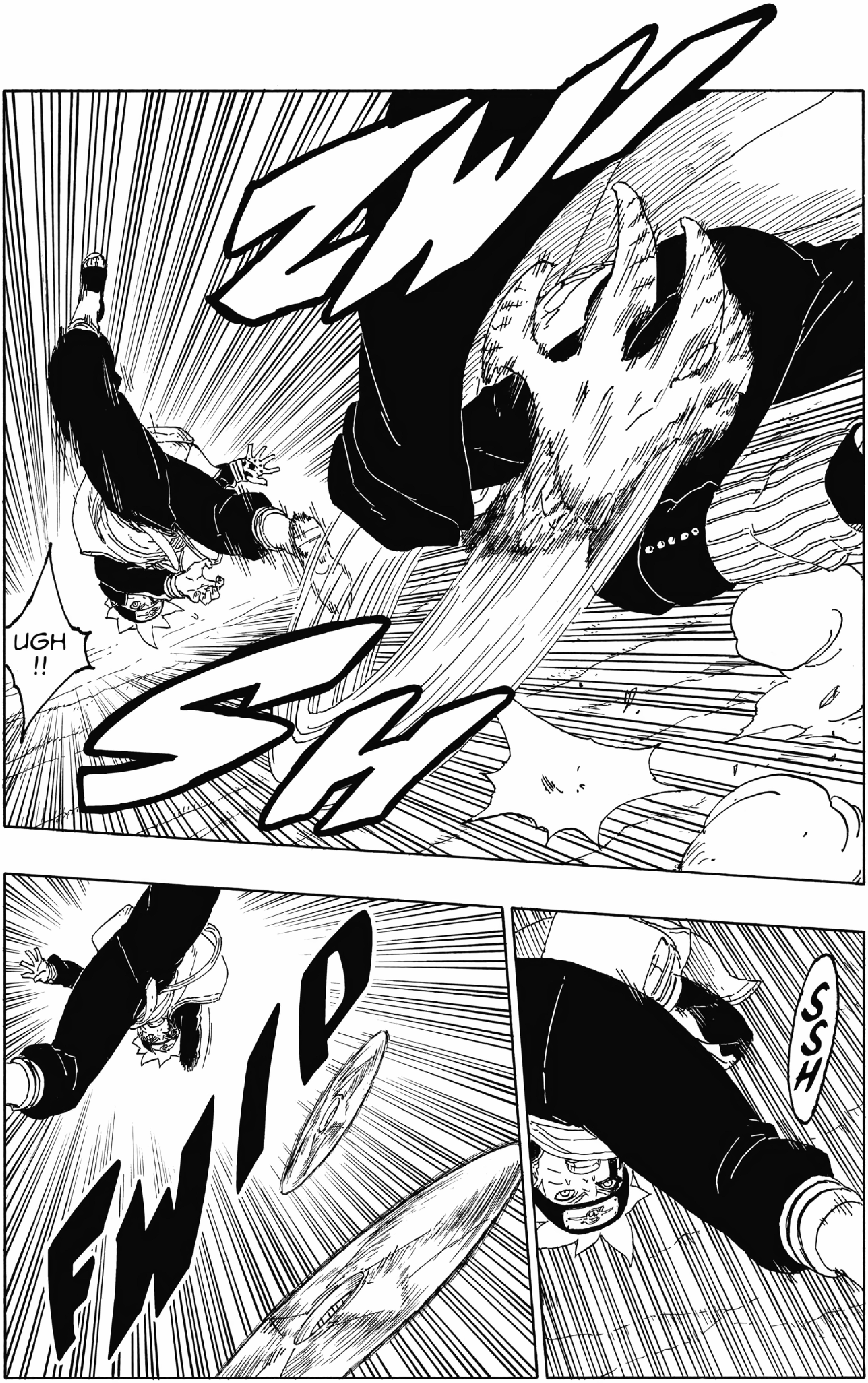

BORUTO?
!
C'MON, KAWAKI...
...
WHERE ARE YOU?!
NISHI!
WHERE'S BORUTO?
I NEED HIM.

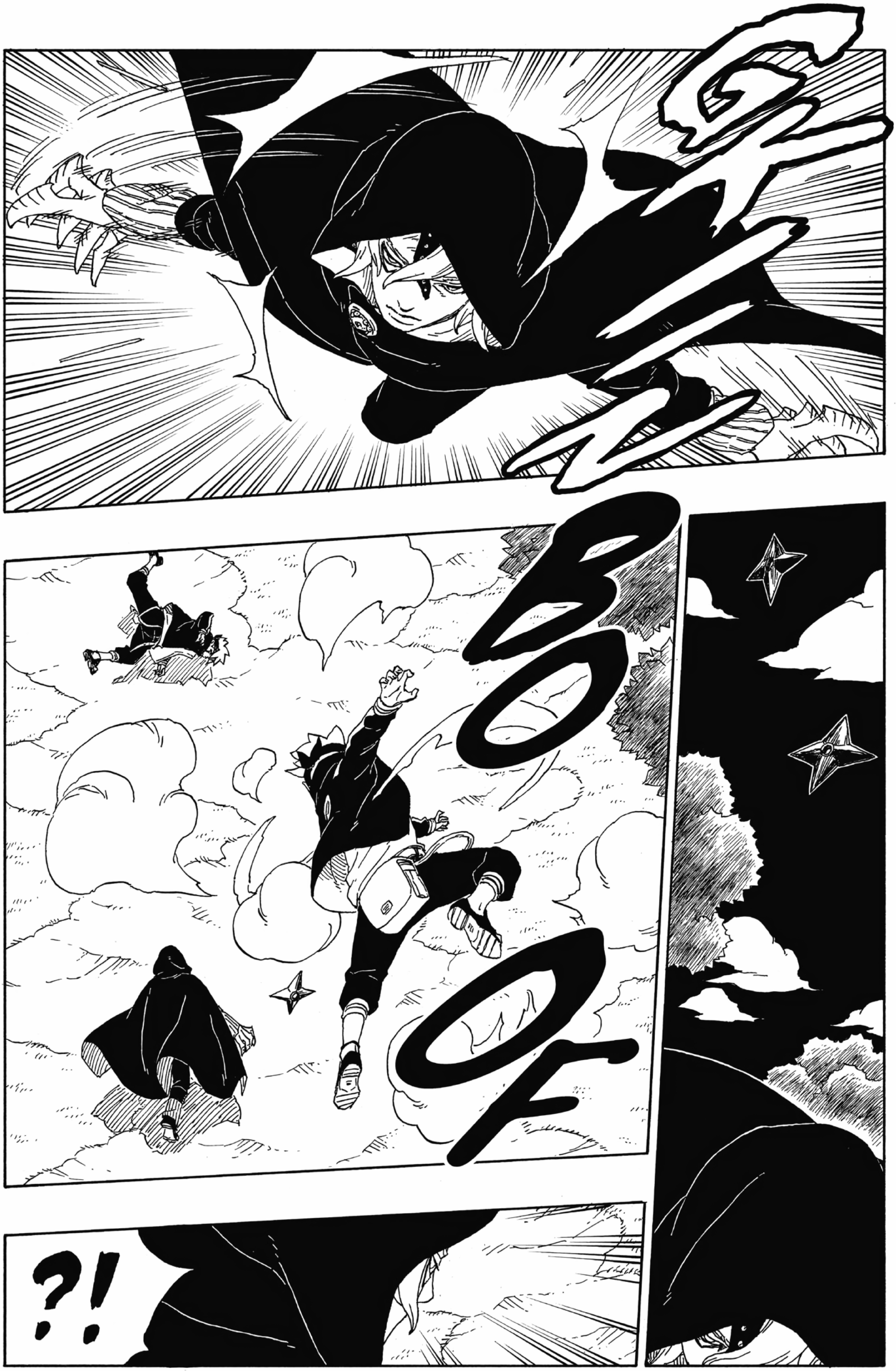

OH!
YES, SIR...
...
HUH...?
...
WHAT IS IT?
TELL ME.
...
UH...
I'M SO SORRY.
IT SEEMS HE'S NOWHERE NEARBY.
!!
WHA?!

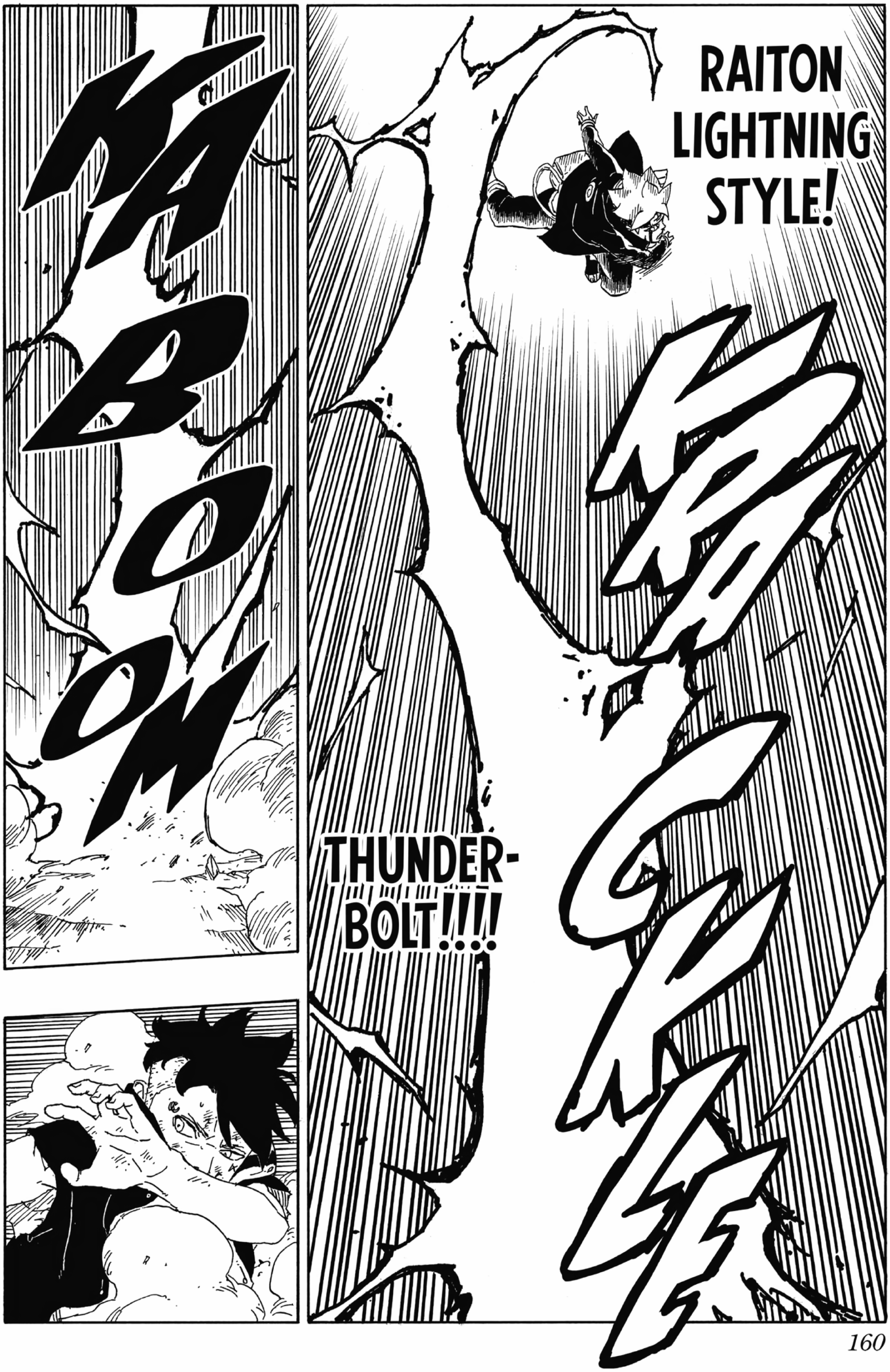

TAK
THK
GWEEEEN

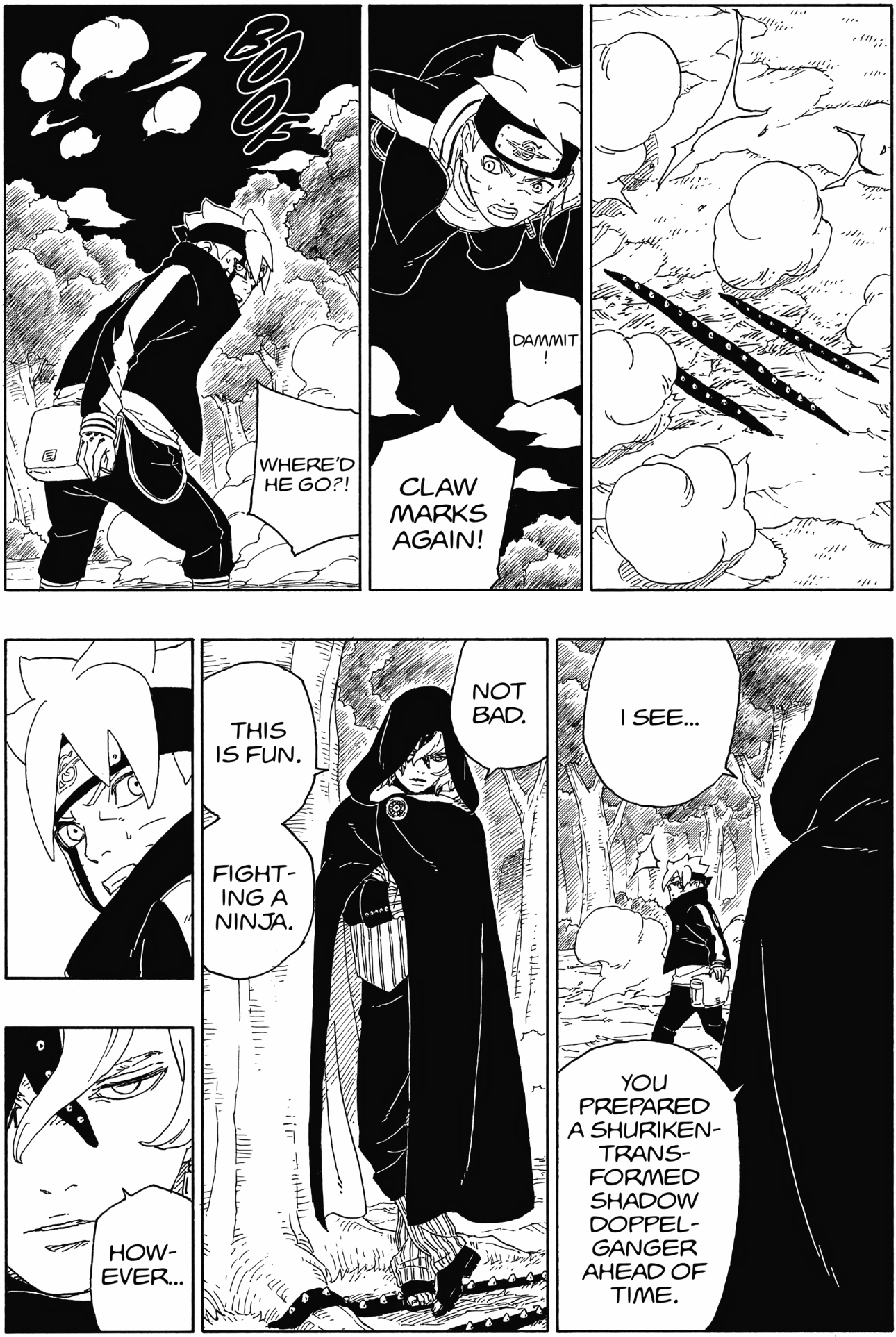

BOF
RASENGAN!!
DWOOSH
!

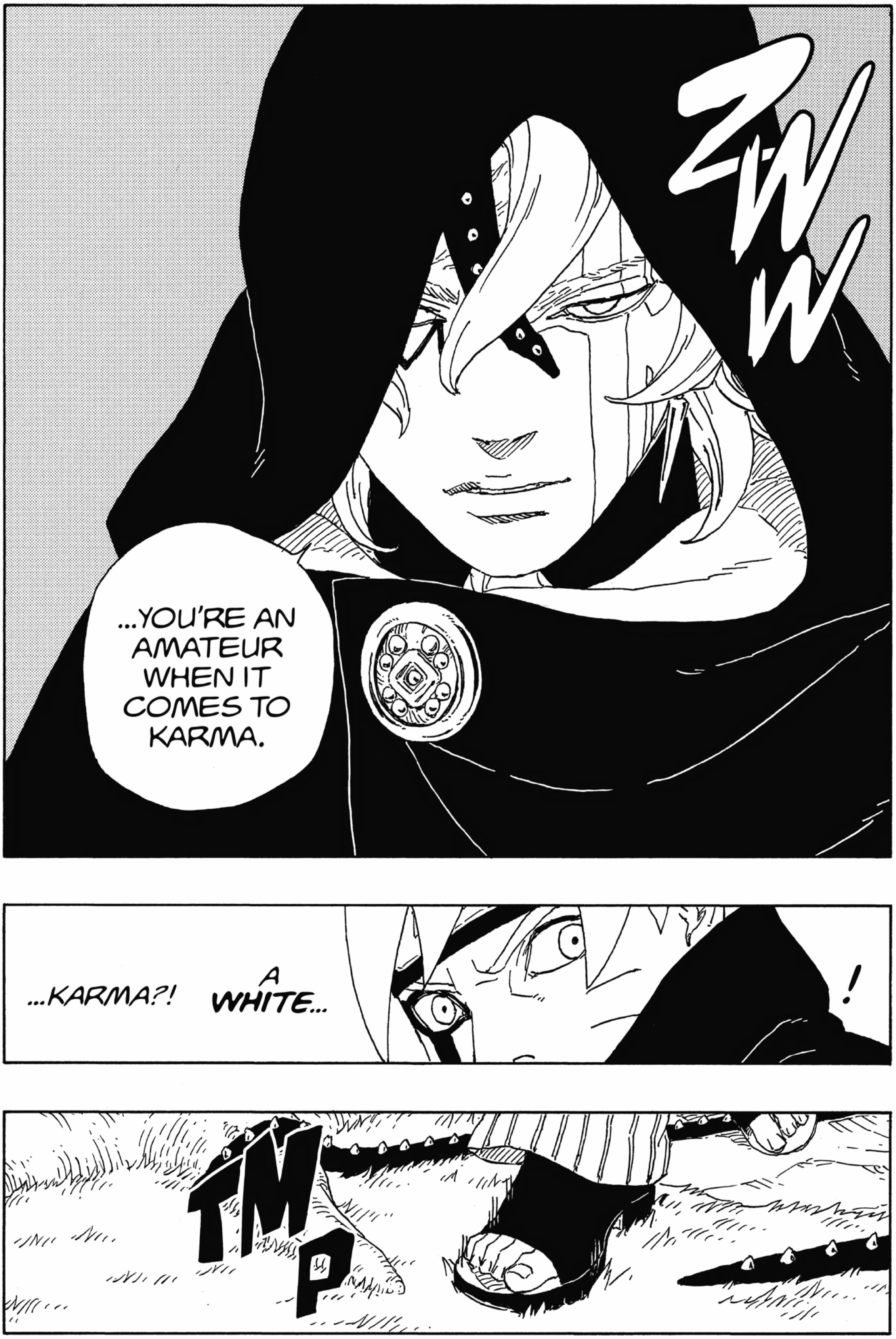

IT'S THAT ABILITY OF HIS...
...TO TRAVEL BETWEEN CLAW MARKS!
ZWG
BORUTO, BEHIND YOU!!
ZWOOM

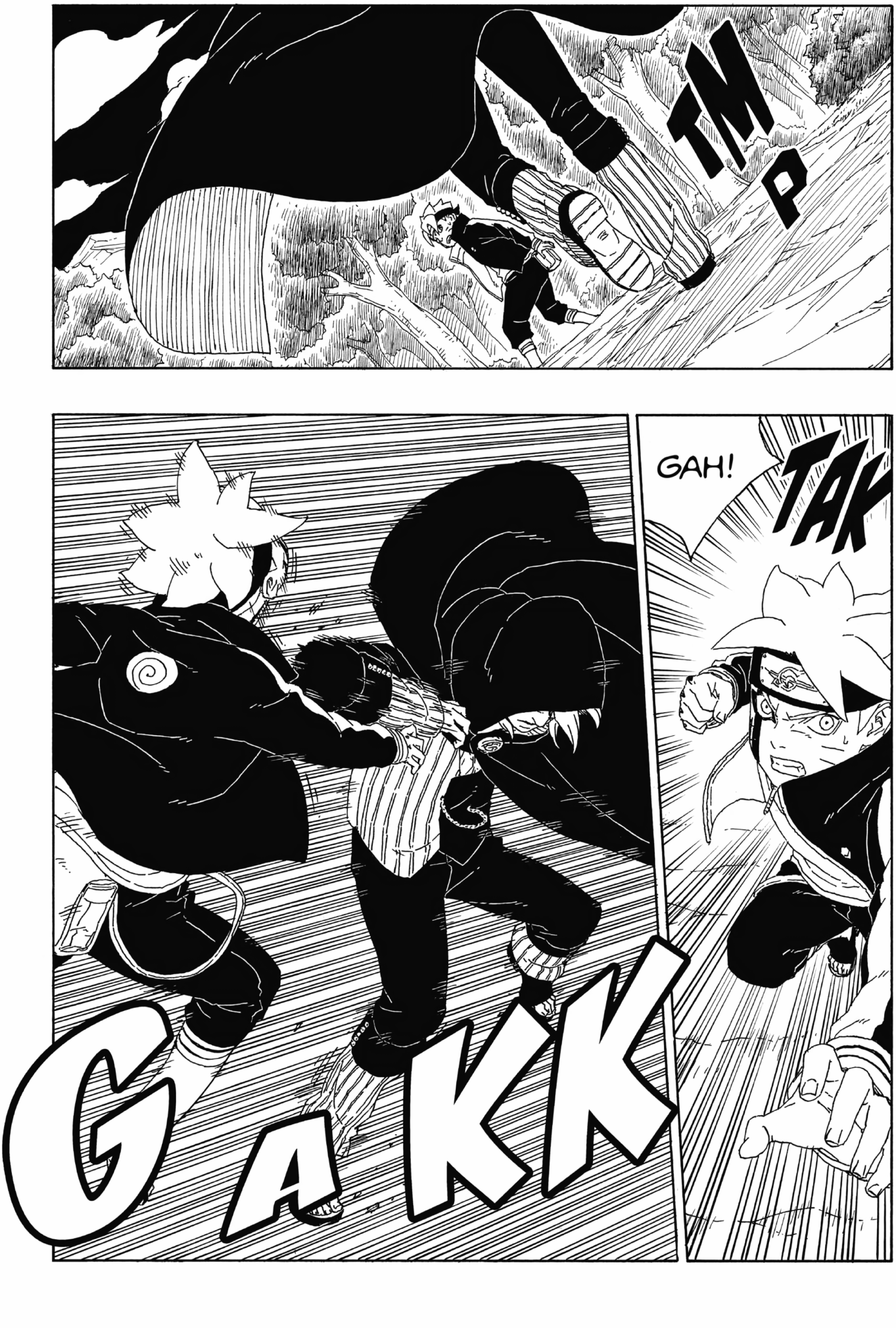

ZWI
SH
UGH !!
SSH
FWIP

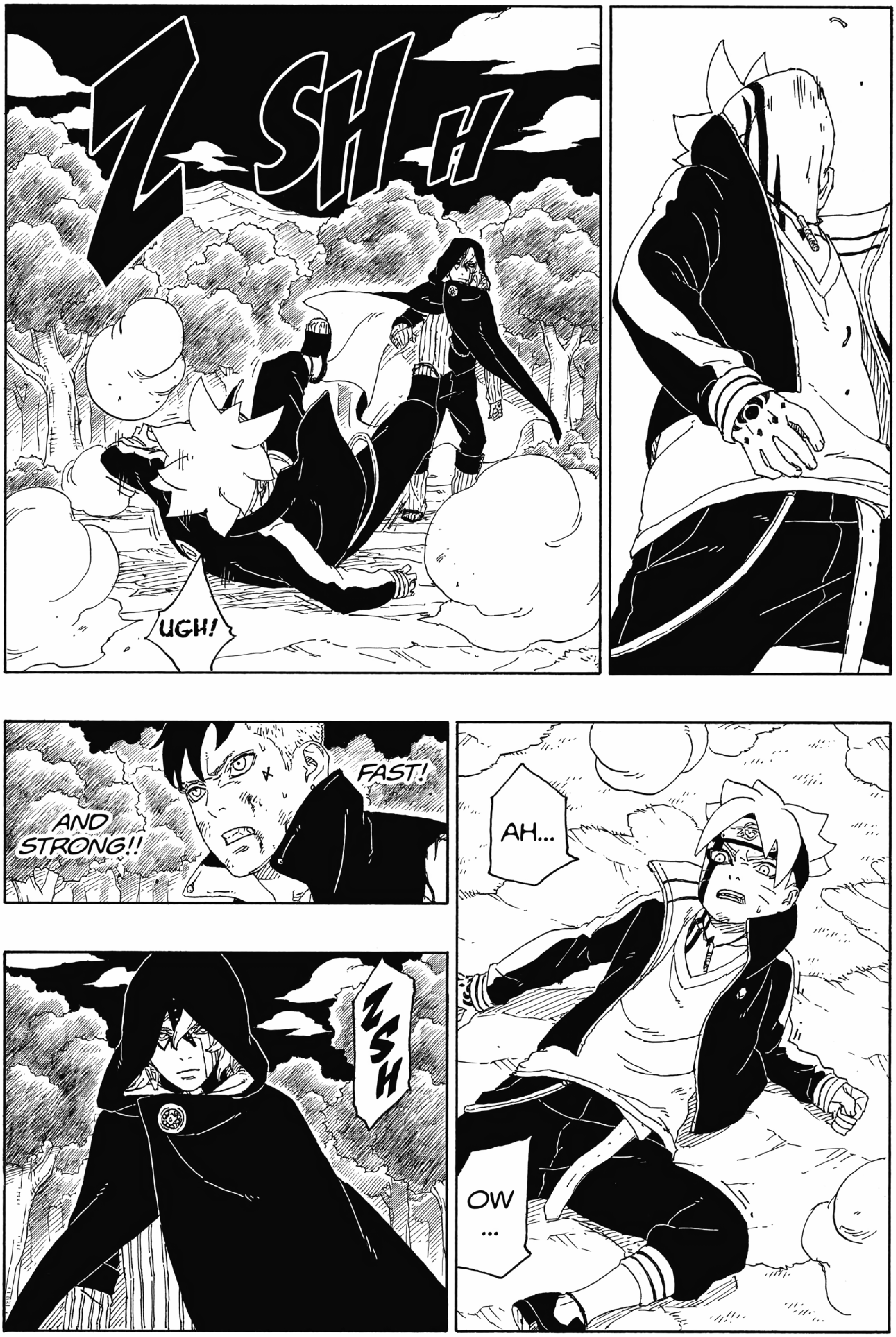

GSHH
BOOOF
?!

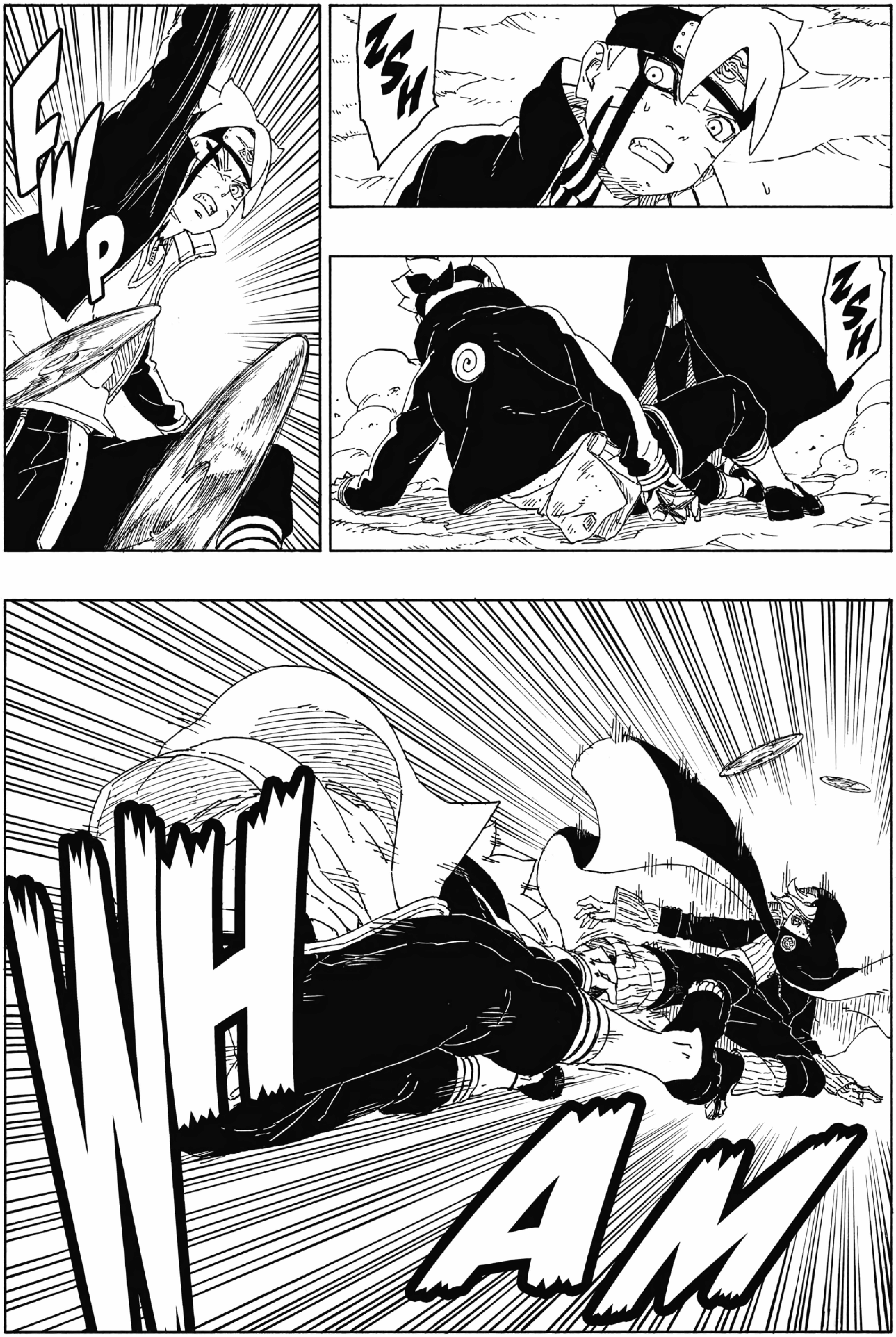

RAITON LIGHTNING STYLE!
KRACKLE
THUNDER-BOLT!!!!
KABOOM

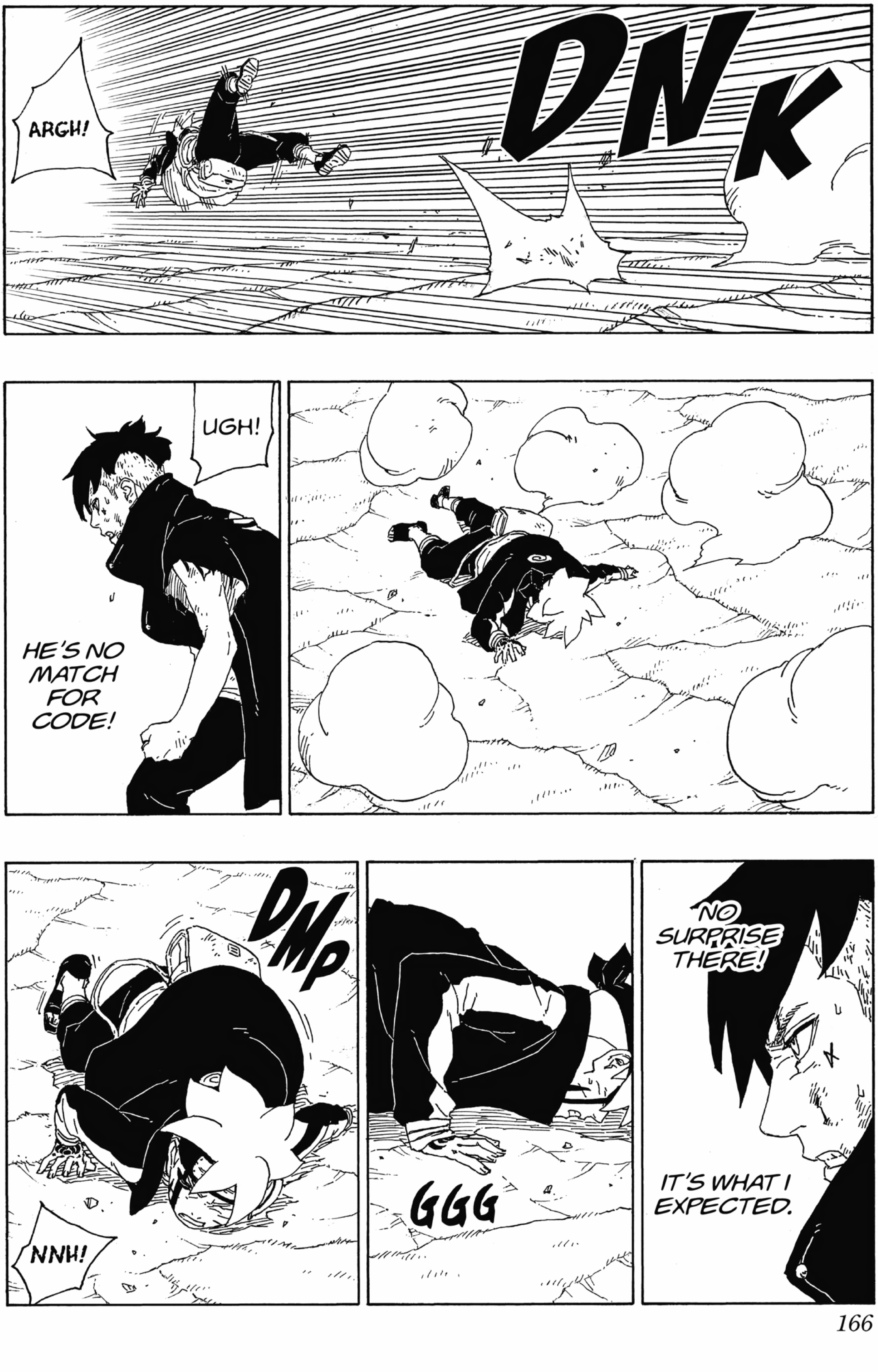

DAMMIT!
CLAW MARKS AGAIN!
BOOF
WHERE'D HE GO?!
I SEE...
YOU PREPARED A SHURIKEN-TRANSFORMED SHADOW DOPPELGANGER AHEAD OF TIME.
NOT BAD.
THIS IS FUN.
FIGHTING A NINJA.
HOWEVER...

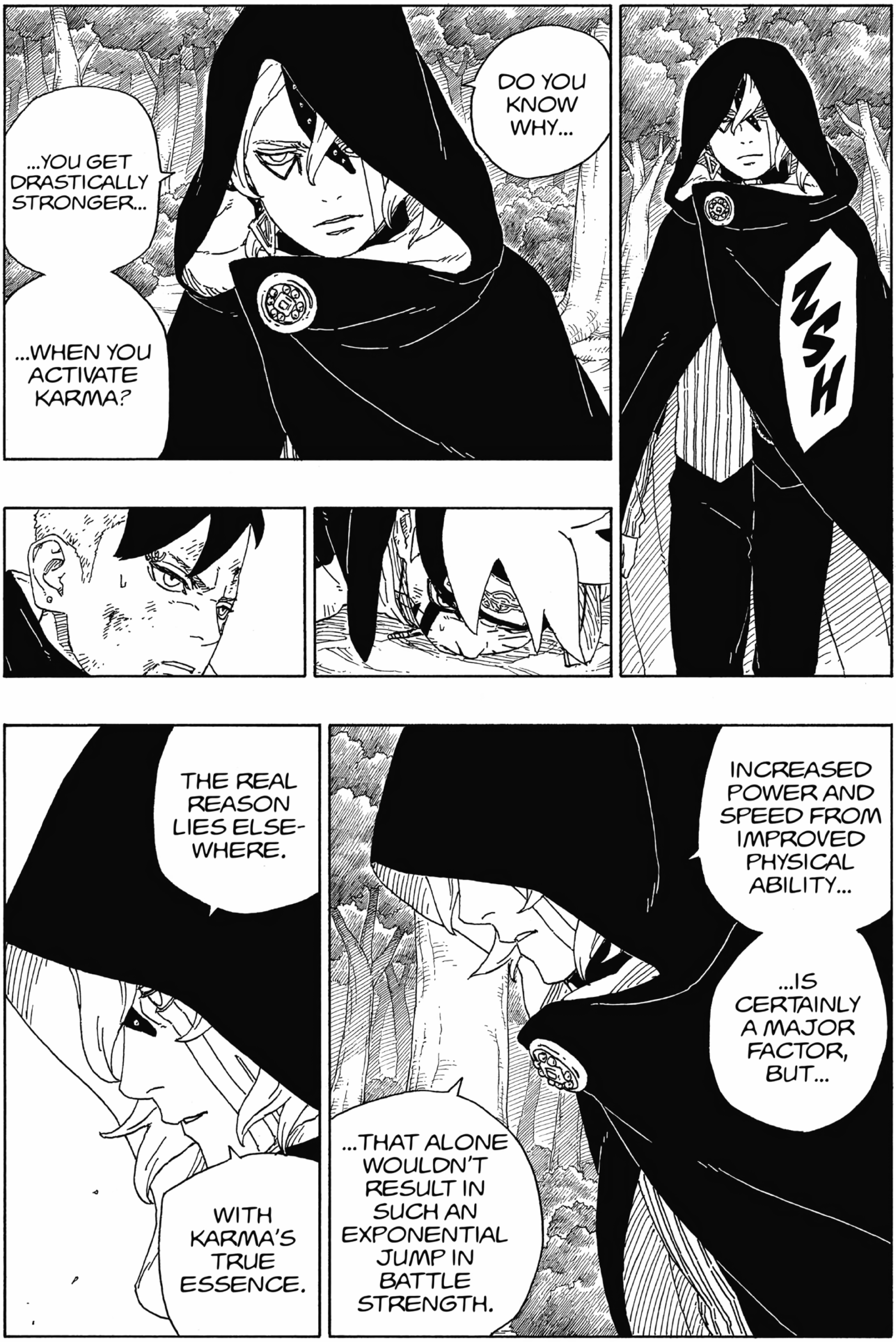

ZWW
...YOU'RE AN AMATEUR WHEN IT COMES TO KARMA.
!
A WHITE...
...KARMA?!
TMP

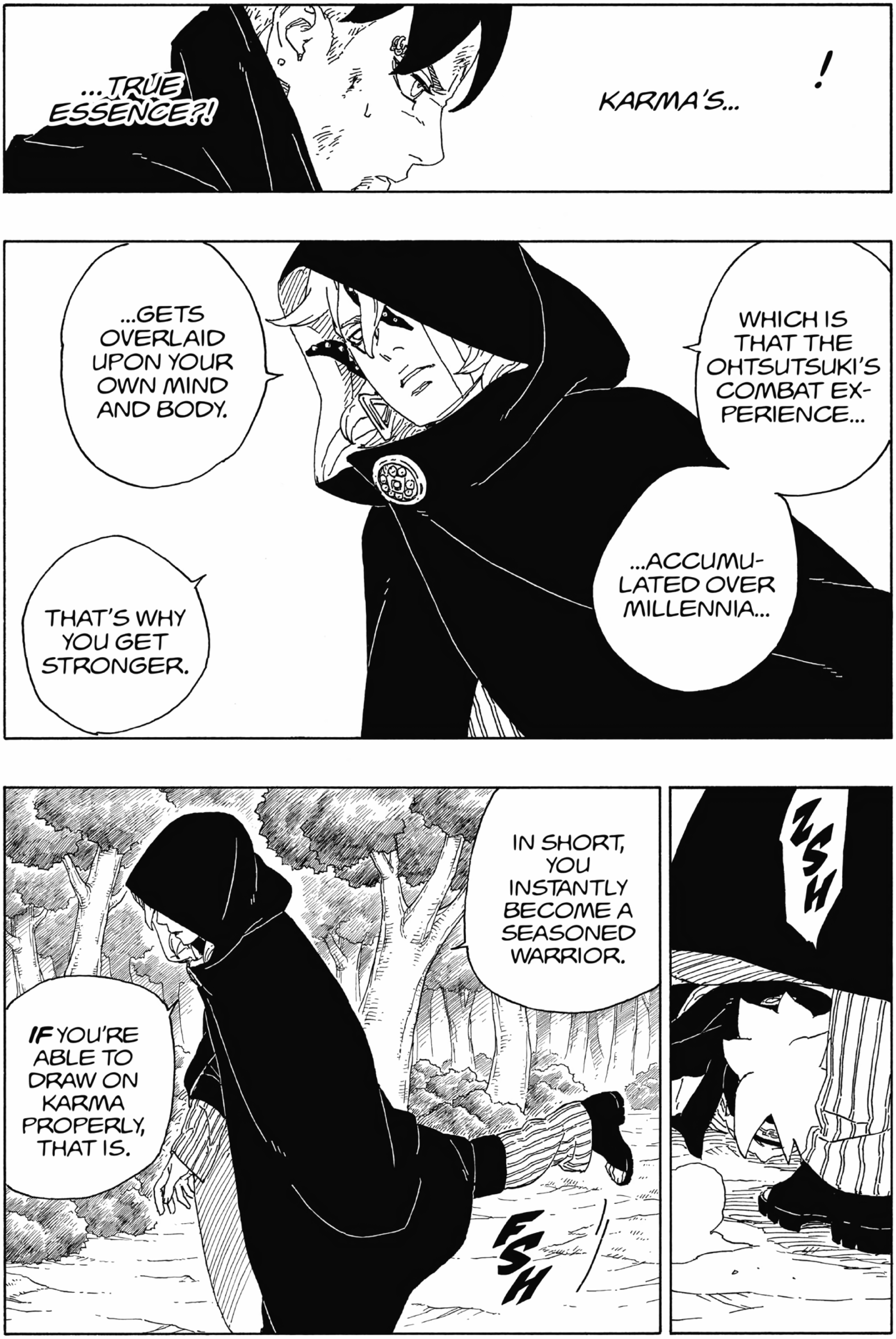

TMP
GAH!
TAK
GAKK

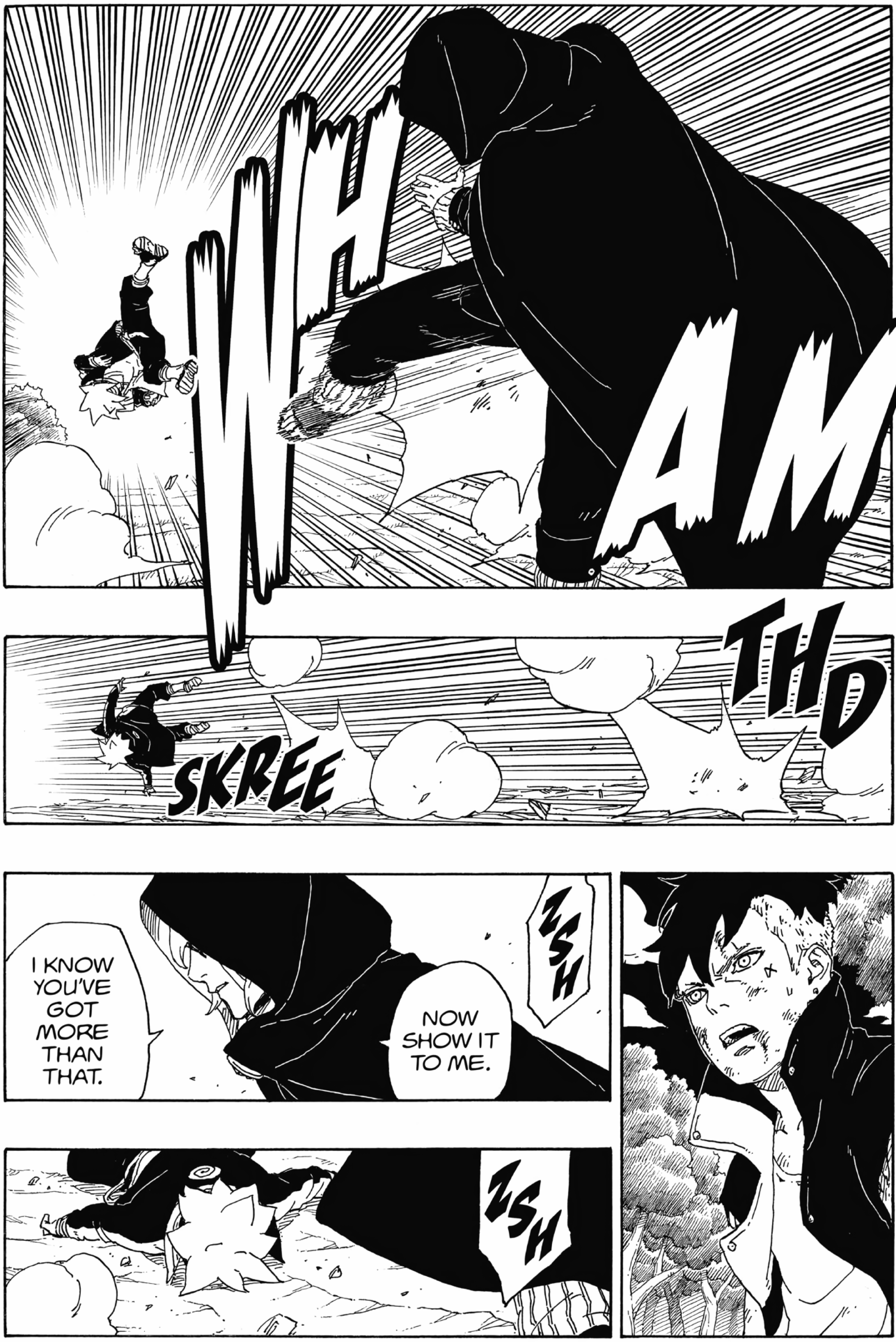

ZSHH
UGH!
AH...
OW...
FAST!
AND STRONG!!
ZSH

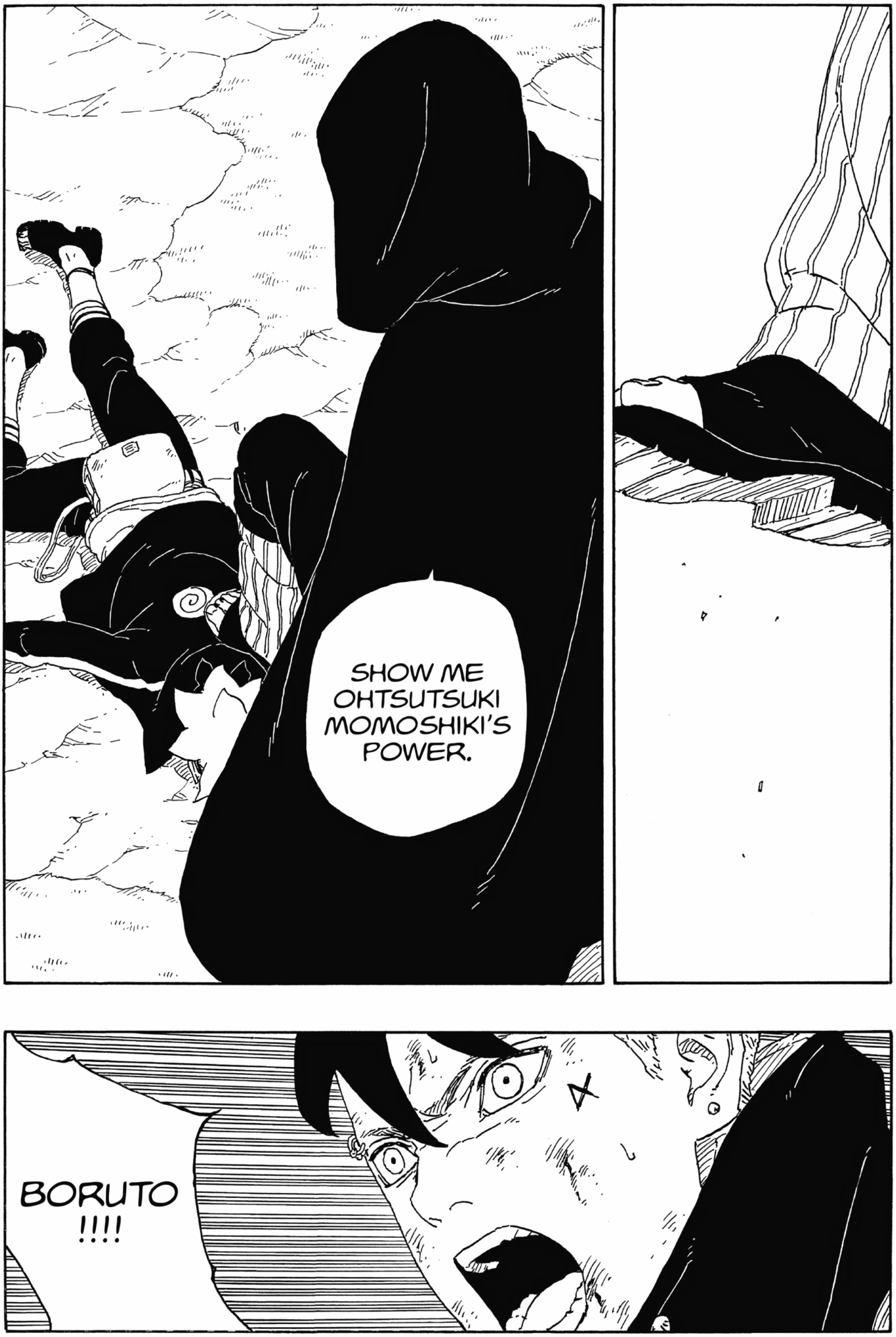

ZSH
ZSH
FWP
WHAM

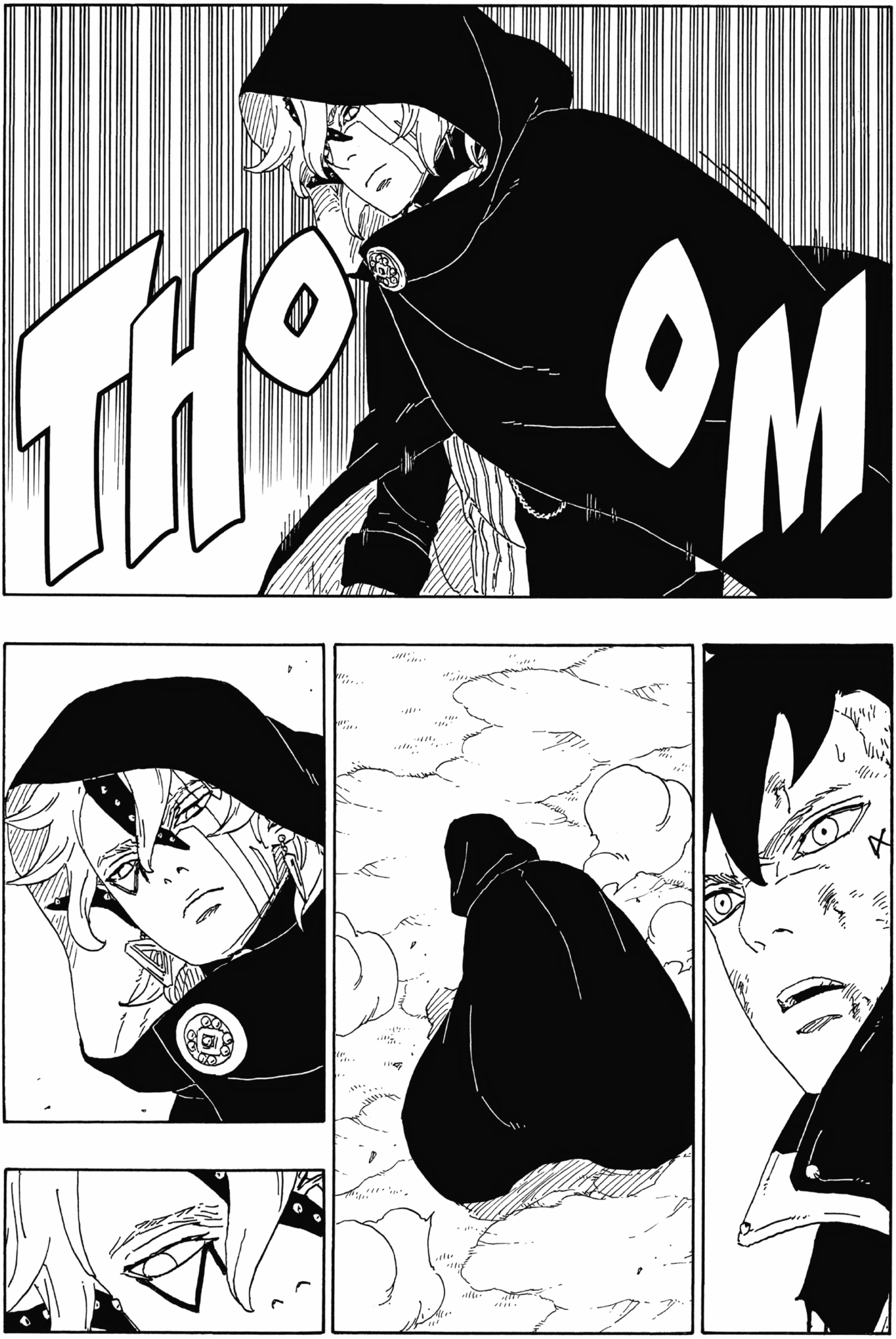

DNK
ARGH!
UGH!
HE'S NO MATCH FOR CODE!
NO SURPRISE THERE!
IT'S WHAT I EXPECTED.
GGG
DMP
NNH!

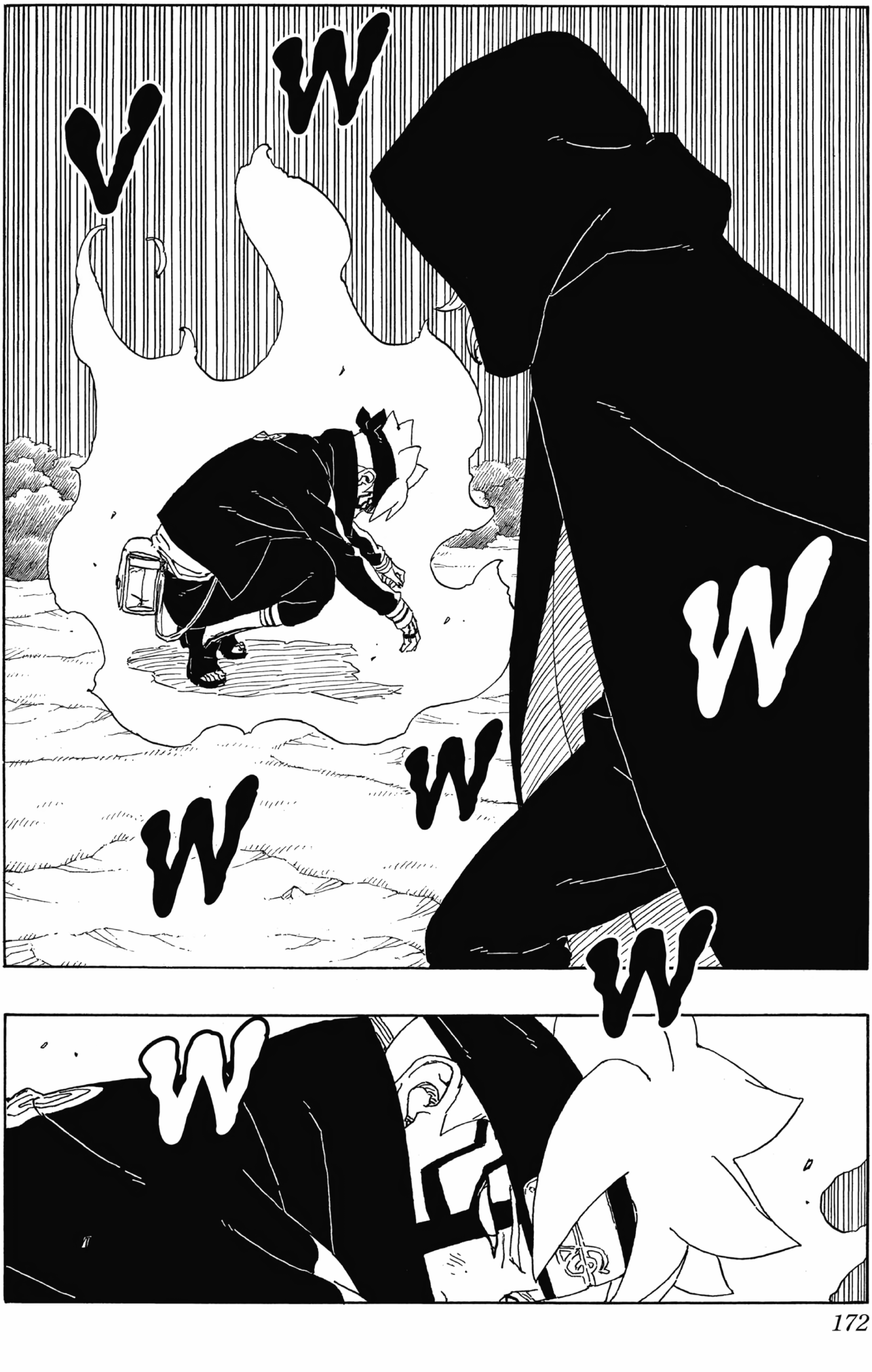

ZSH
DO YOU KNOW WHY...
...YOU GET DRASTICALLY STRONGER...
...WHEN YOU ACTIVATE KARMA?
INCREASED POWER AND SPEED FROM IMPROVED PHYSICAL ABILITY...
...IS CERTAINLY A MAJOR FACTOR, BUT...
...THAT ALONE WOULDN'T RESULT IN SUCH AN EXPONENTIAL JUMP IN BATTLE STRENGTH.
THE REAL REASON LIES ELSEWHERE.
WITH KARMA'S TRUE ESSENCE.

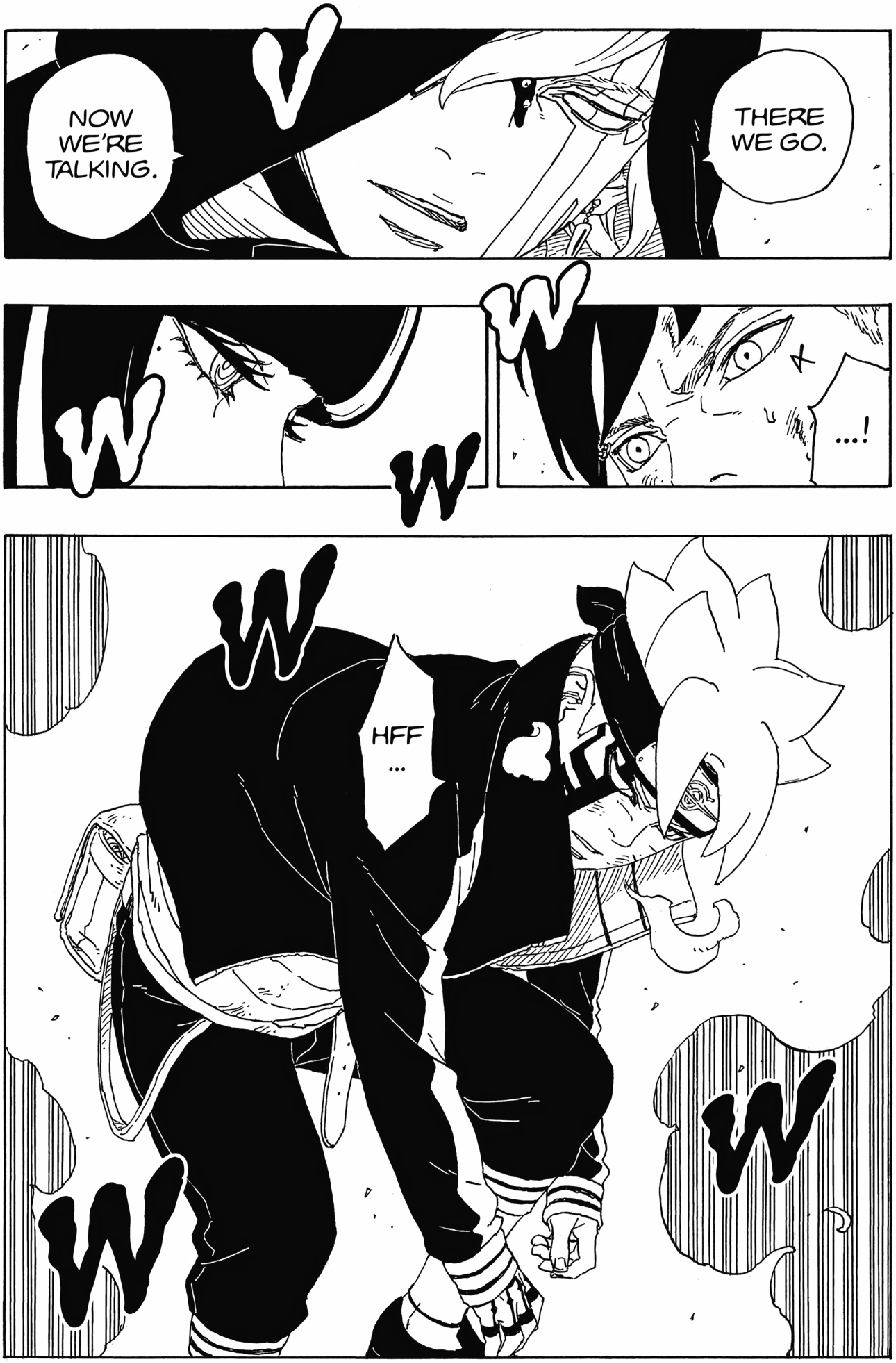

!
KARMA'S...
...TRUE ESSENCE?!
WHICH IS THAT THE OHTSUTSUKI'S COMBAT EXPERIENCE...
...ACCUMULATED OVER MILLENNIA...
...GETS OVERLAID UPON YOUR OWN MIND AND BODY.
THAT'S WHY YOU GET STRONGER.
ZSH
IN SHORT, YOU INSTANTLY BECOME A SEASONED WARRIOR.
IF YOU'RE ABLE TO DRAW ON KARMA PROPERLY, THAT IS.
FSH


WHAM
THD
SKREE
ZSH
I KNOW YOU'VE GOT MORE THAN THAT.
NOW SHOW IT TO ME.
ZSH


SHOW ME OHTSUTSUKI MOMOSHIKI'S POWER.
BORUTO !!!!


THOOM


V W
W
W W
W
W


THERE WE GO.
NOW WE'RE TALKING.
W
W
W
W
...!
W
HFF ...
W
W